

DECEMBER 10, 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MONDAY - Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:30 Arthur Grant req. by Eileen & Kevin Langan
Shirley Atak req. by Gloria & Claude Pineiro

TUESDAY - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30 Lisa Devenny (8th Anniversary) req. by her Mom,
Mary Conti, with Love
Julia Messerle req. by The Kulick Family

WEDNESDAY - Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:30 Edna Pietrucha req. by Peggy Nicolini
Julia Messerle req. by The Kulick Family

THURSDAY - Saint John of the Cross

8:30 Nicholas Pratico req. by Carl & Jo Doubet
Julia Collins req. by Fr. David McDonnell

FRIDAY

8:30 Louis Nazzaro req. by Dottie & Timmy Brown
James Opitz req. by The Family

SATURDAY

8:30 Edna Pietrucha req. by The Scanlon Family
Dulce Urena req. by Urena Family
5:30 Kathy Weckler req. by The Weckler Family
Marie DeChara req. by Eileen Ibranyi

DECEMBER 17, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:45 Patrick Brady req. by Judy & Bill Bosworth
Jack & Mary Ann Hingel req. by Joanna & Gil Mattos
9:00 People of the Parish
Peter Cofrancesco req. by The Gang Family
10:30 Deacon Ed Maron req. by Arlene Sharpe
Tina Spatarella req. by Ginny Manfredi
12:00 Peter Sands req. by Friends of Sands Family
Kathi Mannion req. by Joanna & Gil Mattos

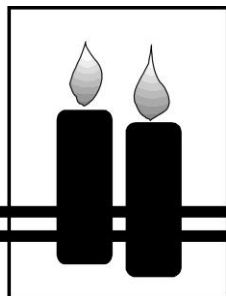
PARISH FINANCES

December 3, 2017 \$ 12,798

Parish Maintenance (HELP) \$ 3,224

**Next week's second collection is for
Retired Religious**

**Prepare the way
of the Lord**



WE MOURN HER PASSING

It was with deep sadness that we learned of Laurie DiCianni's death. She was a gift to our parish where she served as Youth Minister and Confirmation Coordinator for 15 years. It was a ministry she loved and cherished. Her gift was working with young people. Every Monday evening she would meet with the Youth Team to plan for the upcoming Dogma retreats.

Every year she saw to it that we had an adequate number of catechists for the Confirmation Program. She was careful whom she chose knowing how important their responsibility was. On a continuous basis she monitored what programs would be most suitable and beneficial to both catechists and students.

Youth Ministry for Laurie was not a 9-5 hour job. It was a ministry. She really cared for the young people entrusted to her care, and because of her own life experience, she reached out to those who needed help with patience and kindness. She was a joy to any pastor because she went about her work in a quiet, professional way. Through the years, I never had to worry about our high school program, knowing that with Laurie it was in good hands.

Our parish family grieves her passing. She was a joy to be with, and even though, at times, her heart was heavy with worry, caring for her son Marc who is seriously ill, she kept it very much to herself. Like St. Paul's hymn to love, she exuded patience and kindness. She was a woman of faith nourished on the Eucharist.

We won't easily forget what Laurie has meant to each one of us. She has touched our lives in so many different ways. We will remember her smile, her deep faith, and her love for family that have made us all better people, better friends of Christ who died and rose, and holds all of us in the palm of his hand.

We entrust her to his loving embrace.
May she rest in peace.

Sincerely,
Rev. David McDonnell

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH - 12/10/17 to 12/16/17

Sun	4:00 PM Christmas Concert	Church
Mon	7:30 PM RCIA	St. Lucy
	7:30 PM Advisory	Library
	7:30 Confessions	Church
Tues.	9:15 AM Scripture Class	Library
	7:00 PM 3 & 4 Grade Christ. Concert	McKenna
Wed.	7:00 PM Middle Sch Band Concert	McKenna
Thur.	6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
Fri.	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	After 8:30 Mass – Legion of Mary	St. Benedict
	3:00 PM Sparta Unico Pasta/Comedy	McKenna
	8:00 PM AA	McKenna Hall

LITURGY

**DECEMBER 10, 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for “the glory of the Lord to be revealed rather than” looking only at God’s power, Isaiah focuses on God’s kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to “stoop and untie his sandal straps.” John urged them to prepare for one far hollower than he, who would walk among them.

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, 1ST Lt. Christopher Tantillo; LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1st Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat’l Guard, Brandon Adams, Private William Maloney. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women. *Please let us know when your loved one has returned. Thank you.*

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Adult Choir practice takes place on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Choir loft.



Contemporary Choir - Saturdays, 4:30 PM in St. Cecilia Room.

Children’s Choir practice takes place on Thursdays at 2:45 PM in the St. Cecilia Room.

Vocal- Instrumental Group - contact our Music Director, Krzysztof Kowalewski at the parish office. *New and existing members are invited.*

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

DOGMA TEAM

Dogma Team is having an *important* meeting this Monday at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please volunteer to serve at one of our Christmas Masses by signing up on the special sheet in the church vestibule.

SCRIPTURE CLASS

Scripture class takes place on Tuesday mornings following 8:30 morning Mass. We meet every Tuesday in the Parish Library. Bring a friend as we all journey in our faith together, it will be an hour well spent!

RACHEL’S VINEYARD

The Diocese of Paterson is sponsoring a Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat January 26 to 28. This is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. For more information, please call (973) 377-1004 ext. 425 or RVPaterson@gmail.com.

NEW POSSIBILITIES

Newness often makes us fearful, including the newness which God brings us, the newness which God asks of us...Brothers and sisters, let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do we think that we won’t be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us never give up: there are no situations which God cannot change, there is no sin which he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him.

Pope Francis.... The Church of Mercy

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

PASTA DINNER COMEDY NIGHT BENEFIT

Sparta UNICO is hosting a Pasta Dinner and Comedy Night benefit (featuring comedian, "Uncle Floyd") Saturday, December 16th at 7:00 PM at Reverend Brown School – McKenna Hall. Net proceeds to benefit Melanie Russo, a local 14 year-old who has a rare bone cancer. Tickets are \$45 per person and it is BYOB. For tickets, questions, or to donate, please call 862-266-7039. Thank you.

NJ Conservatory Presents Handel's 'Messiah'!

NJ Conservatory first presented Handel's 'Messiah' in December 1987 and never missed a year. This year's special anniversary performance by the Conservatory's Symphonic Choir accompanied by its Baroque Orchestra takes place at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 246 Woodport Rd., Sparta on Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 PM. Edwin Foster, conducting, assisted by Associate Ford R. Foster, Concertmaster Holly Horne, featuring Julie Suh and Elizabeth Lee on Continuo. The Conservatory's adult Chamber Choir will sing a collection of Christmas selections old and new. Tickets: \$40 - \$35 - \$30, 30% student discount. Please call (973) 402-2004.

Imperial Brass at St. Catherine of Siena

St. Catherine of Siena, Mountain Lakes, is hosting the Imperial Brass Orchestra Sat. Dec. 16 at 8:00 PM for a "Celebrating the Joys and Blessings of the Season" concert. Tickets are \$30 and include a wine and cheese reception following the concert. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Whitney at 973-586-2777 or queendubose@aol.com.

WELCOME TO THE WeShare FAMILY!

ParishPay has transitioned to **WeShare**. Here are several things to keep in mind as you familiarize yourself with WeShare.

We take security seriously. Donors' recurring donations will continue as scheduled. But donors must authenticate their account and email to receive WeShare emails or to make any changes to their account. The first time a donor enters the system – they will have to go through a one-time validation requiring:

- Their ParishPay user name
- The last 4 digits of the bank account or credit card used with ParishPay

And ONE of the following two options:

- Their email address
- A collection name and the specific amount donated within the last 6 months.

Please feel free to contact the customer service team for assistance at WeShare@4lpi.com or call 1 (800) 950-9952 and select *Option 1*.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

In preparation for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we will have confessions available every Monday during Advent from 7:30 to 8:30 PM.



Our Advent Communal

Penance Service will take place on Monday, December 18th beginning at 7:30 PM. There will be additional priests available for confessions. Please take this opportunity to prepare for Christmas.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

Would you like to know more about our parish? Go to www.ourladyofthelake.org. We have the same information as before, but in a new format. We hope you will like it. You can see the Sunday Bulletin – the current week and archived issues from the beginning of the year. You can find the schedules for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers under 'Liturgy'. Need to register in the parish? The Registration form is there under "New Members". How to sign your child up for Religious Education. And, of course, if you have any questions or have trouble finding anything, please call the parish office at (973) 729-6107.

HOLY LAND OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS

Rosary beads, crucifixes, nativity sets and much more made from olive wood in the Holy Land, will be available on December 16/17 when we will have a vendor in Cassidy Hall with holy items made by Christians in the Holy Land. These items make great Christmas presents.



LUMINARY KIT SALE

Each year the Columbian Squires at St. Kateri sell



Luminary kits in November and December with all proceeds to benefit the homeless and needy of our area through local charities (Samaritan Inn, Family Promise, Sparta Food Pantry, Book Bank Foundation). The

Squires who have sold these kits in the past few years are parishioners at Our Lady of the Lake. Please give them your support.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TODAY!
December 10, 2017.
4:00PM



Come one, come all to our annual Christmas Concert. Come celebrate the Christmas Season, bring your family and friends to hear the Christmas lessons and the beautiful sound of our adult choirs, children's choir and OLL orchestra singing our Christmas favorites. You will be glad you did.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The last Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve. The Saturday Vigil Mass on December 23rd, and the morning Masses on Sunday, December 24th (Christmas Eve) 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 & 12:00, will fulfill the Sunday obligation. The late afternoon and evening Masses (4:00, 4:05, 6:00, 8:00 and Midnight, will be Christmas Masses, as well as the 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 on December 25th (Christmas Day).

Christmas Schedule



Sunday – Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 PM, 4:05 PM (overflow in McKenna Hall)
 6:00 PM, 8:00 PM, 12:00 Midnight

Monday – Dec. 25 – Christmas Masses

There will NOT be a 7:45 Mass

9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon

Sunday – Dec. 31 – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:45 AM, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00

January 1, 2018 – New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

(not a holy day of obligation this year)
 8:30 AM, 7:00 PM

Our Lady of the Lake R.C. Church
294 Sparta Ave., Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Parish Mission Statement

Our Lady of the Lake is a Roman Catholic Community founded in tradition and based on our faith in Jesus Christ. With the help of the Holy Spirit we share the message of God's love with all. Through our ministries and school, we strive to address spiritual, social and educational needs. We are nourished by the Eucharist, enlightened by the Word and guided by our devotion to Mary, Our Lady of the Lake.

Rev. David McDonnell	Pastor
Rev. Marcin Bradtke	Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Krzysztof Ślimak	Deacon
Mr. James McGovern	Deacon
Mr. Anthony (Sonny) Curcio	Deacon
Elizabeth Heldak	Director of Religious Education
Krzysztof Kowalewski	Music Director
Denise Aldana	Social Ministries
Ellen Ormond	Secretary/Bookkeeper
Joanna Mattos	Secretary

Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday	8:30 P.M.
Sunday	7:45, 9:00, 10:30 A.M. and 12:00 Noon

Weekday Masses

8:30 A.M.

Holy Day Masses

8:30, 9:30 A.M. (except August 15th), and 7:00 P.M.

Confessions

Saturday	4:00 to 5:00 and at 6:30 P.M.
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Novena

Miraculous Medal Devotions: Saturday	8:30 A.M.
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Eucharist Adoration

Thursday	9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
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Parish Membership

Our Parish Family invites all its members to participate fully. If you move to another Parish, or change your address, please notify us.

Please see our website for more information.

New Parishioners – Welcome!

Won't you please register at the Parish Office, Monday-Friday 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Parish Office & Rectory	(973) 729-6107	Fax (973) 729-7203
Religious Education Office (on weekdays)	(973) 729-6107	
E-Mail	info@ourladyofthelake.org	
Web Site	www.ourladyofthelake.org	
School Offices		
Rev. George A. Brown (Pre-K to Gr. 4)	(973) 729-9174	
Pope John XXIII Middle School (Gr. 5 to 7)	(973) 729-1967	
Pope John XXIII High School (Gr. 8 to 12)	(973) 729-6125	