

DECEMBER 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent

MONDAY – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8:30 Special Intention of Alyam Moser req. by Anna & Simon
- 6:00 Gaetano DiPalma req. by Nanette Fedel & Diana Fabiano

TUESDAY

- 8:30 John J. McLaughlin req. by Anne Marie McLaughlin

WEDNESDAY – Saint Damasus I, Pope

- 8:30 Aileen Jones req. by Grace Mulligan

THURSDAY – Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 8:30 Milton Kozdron req. by Family
 Lisa Devenny (10th Anniv.) req. by Mom with love

FRIDAY – Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

- 8:30 Special Intention of Zoila Sandoval req. by Anna & Simon

SATURDAY – Saint John of the Cross

- 8:30 Special Intention of Zachary Iobst req. by Anna & Simon
- 5:30 Members of the Purgatorial Society
 Elizabeth Ann Boreck req. by Fred & Kim Jenkin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:45 Jack and Bridget McDonnell
- 9:00 George E. Neder req. by his wife, Carolyn Neder
 Ken Tanis req. by Alice & John Roy
- 10:30 James Opitz req. by Family
 People of the Parish
- 12:00 Devon Carberry req. by Elise Adams
 Peter Sands (6th Anniv.) req. by the Prayer Group

PARISH FINANCE

November 24, 2019	\$ 10,033
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 2,420
December 1st collections will be published next week.	

REFLECTION

Have you ever seen a Jesse Tree? It's an ancient Advent tradition consisting of a carving,



painting, or stained-glass window – even an actual tree – that portrays the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of the Messiah. Jesus is usually at the top. Many medieval Jesse Trees also included a depiction of Jesse himself lying at the

base of the tree. That's because the design comes from today's first reading: a shoot sprouting "from the stump of Jesse."

Jesse was the father of King David and an ancestor of Jesus, so the branches of the Jesse Tree are meant to display Jesus' rich and varied heritage. The Tree reminds us how faithful God was during the "long Advent" when his people waited for the Messiah. Each person and event represented on the tree depicts part of God's plan to save his people. Prophets like Jeremiah and Isaiah often show up. So do David, Solomon, and other kings, as well as virtuous women like Ruth, Esther, and Susanna.

Even if you don't decorate a Jesse Tree in your home, the ideas behind it can help you prepare for Christmas. During Advent, it's traditional to review stories from the Old Testament that promise the coming of the Messiah. Stories of these ancestors of Jesus illustrate God's commitment to his plan to save us. It's a commitment that stretched from the very beginning, through thousands of years, right up to Christmas Day. It's a commitment too that reaches even the present.

Jesus' birth has brought about something new and wonderful, and the Jesse Tree illustrates it: a salvation that is far more wide-reaching than we ever could have imagined.

From: *The Word Among Us*



THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH – 12/8/19 – 12/14/19

Mon.	6:30 pm Youth Group	Youth Room
	7:00 pm Prayer Group	St. Joseph
Tues.	9:00 am – 7:15 pm Eucharistic Adoration	
Thurs.	9:00 am Bible Study	St. Joseph
	6:45 pm BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
	7:00 pm RCIA	St. Lucy
	7:00 pm Adopt-a-Family Mtg	Cassidy Hall
Fri.	8:00 pm AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	9:00 am Legion of Mary	St. Benedic
	9:00 am – 1:00 pm Adopt-a-Family Dropoff	

LITURGY

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

In this beautiful passage, a messianic prophecy, Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Paul reveals to us the necessity of living in peace and harmony. His words "Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the Glory of God" are as needed today as they were in Paul's own time.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus. Clothed in a garment of camel's hair, he baptizes the people in the Jordan River, but warns the Pharisees in ringing tones that they must give evidence that they mean to reform.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE



In preparation for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we will have confessions available every Monday during Advent from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

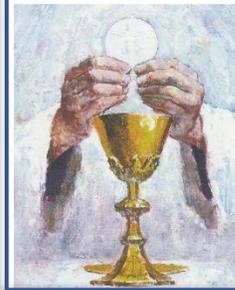
Our Advent Communal

Penance Service will take place on Monday, December 23rd beginning at 7:00 PM. There will be additional priests available for confessions. Please take this opportunity to prepare for Christmas.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

The Charismatic prayer group meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Saint Joseph Room. Meetings include prayer, praise, songs, worship and teachings, and an openness to living a *New Life in the Holy Spirit* - all with a focus on developing a more active faith life and in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. For more info contact Jeff Tucker, 973-726-9011.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ARE NEEDED to serve at Christmas Masses. Please sign up ahead of time on the special sheet stapled inside the regular Sunday Mass EM binder in the vestibule of the church.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



PLEASE NOTE: Eucharistic Adoration will take place on Tuesdays from now on, beginning after the 8:30 Mass and closing at 6:45 p.m. with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Evening Prayer.

CAN YOU GIVE SOMEONE A RIDE TO CHURCH?

There is a woman who is new to the area and needs a ride to Church on Sundays. She does not drive and would like to attend the 12 Noon Mass. If you would like to volunteer to bring her to church and back home, please call the parish office. If more than one person volunteers, you will be able to take turns. Please call the parish office to volunteer. (973) 729-6107.

Thank you!



Mrs. Lisa Oelkers' first grade Sunday morning Religious Education class made Thanksgiving day cards for the Seniors of our community. The class also brought in food for our local food pantry to help feed those in need, demonstrating the true spirit of Thanksgiving.

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

Saint Paul's Abbey Christmas Trees

St. Paul's Abbey on Route 206 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose 'n' cut 7 days a week from November 29 to December 23, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. We also have the Abbey Gift Shop with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including books, statues, jewelry and more.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY DROP OFF GIFTS



Please drop off your Adopt-a-Family gifts on December 14th between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

GODSPELL AUDITIONS:

Audition Notice
North Star Theater Company
 in collaboration with
 Our Lady of the Lake Church

GODSPELL

Auditions: January 2 + 3 @ 6:30-9pm
Performances: March 13, 14, 15 + 18

Auditions will be held at
 21 Kennedy Ave
 Ogdensburg, NJ 07439

Producer Jodi Halteman	Director Allison Ognibene	Stage Manager Chrissy Fulmer
Tech Director John Kollar	Music Director Dr. Deborah Prudenti-Gianuzzi	Choreographer Kelly Dacus-Smith

www.northstartheater.org

Our Lady of the Lake is teaming up with North Star Theater Company for the musical, "Godspell." Auditions will be held on Thursday, January 2, and Friday, January 3, from 6:30 to 9 pm, at the North Star Theater Company Studio, 21 Kennedy Avenue in Ogdensburg. (It is the basement of the First Presbyterian Church.) High School to adults are welcome to audition.

The auditions will run as follows: 6:30 pm singing audition. Please prepare a song from Godspell and bring either a karaoke track or sheet music.

7:30 pm there will be a dance audition, followed by reading from the script at 8:15 pm.

If you only are interested in singing in the ensemble, you will only need to be at the singing portion of it. We will have a "Godspell Choir" for the show.

Godspell will take place at the altar of Our Lady of the Lake on March 13, 14, 15 and 18. The show will be directed by Allison Ognibene, Music Direction by Dr. Deborah Gianuzzi and Technical Direction by John Kollar. Many thanks to the Knights of Columbus for helping to support funding for Godspell.

THE GIVING TREE



We will once again be collecting baby items to benefit Birth Haven in Newton. The Christmas tree will soon be up in the vestibule. Items that would be most appreciated are: boys or girls clothing - size 0-9 mos., baby monitors, crib sheets, BOPPY pillows, car seat/stroller combo, baby laundry detergent, wipes, diapers.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Monday December 23	Advent Communal Penance Service 7:00 PM
Tuesday December 24	Christmas Eve 4:00 PM (overflow in McKenna Hall @ 4:05) 6 PM, 8 PM & Midnight
Wednesday December 25	Christmas Day 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM & Noon
Tuesday December 31	New Year's Eve Regular Morning Mass - 8:30 AM 5:30 PM Vigil Mass
Wednesday January 1, 2019	Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God (New Year's Day) 8:30 AM 7:00 PM

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

"For I Was Hungry ..."

As the year comes fast to an end, and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Bishop's Annual Appeal – as either a contributor to the cause or as a recipient of its mission – and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Bishop's Annual Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit cards, through gifts of securities, or on-line at www.2019appeal.org. If you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA, you can receive a tax benefit by instructing your IRA investment manager to donate your required minimum distribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at (973) 777-8818, ext. 218 for addition details and also consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry



Christmas Food Basket Give Away 2019

Every holiday season, we distribute a holiday meal to Sussex County families in need who otherwise might not be able to sit together for a holiday meal.

In order to give everyone a complete dinner we are asking for your help to make it possible.

We are in need of the following items:

- Canned vegetables
- Gravy
- Apple sauce
- Cranberry sauce
- Boxed (instant) potatoes
- Apple juice
- Hot chocolate
- Candy canes
- Cookies

Any item you wish to donate can be dropped off in our food pantry closet in Cassidy Hall through December 15.

Thank you!