Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

Luke 1:38

Reverend Thomas R. Lafreniere, Pastor
Msgr. James M. Burke, Retired
Rev. Daniel Devore, Assisting
Rev. Lee Smith, Retired
Deacon Frank Bandy

Rev. John Chandler, S.J., Retired
Rev. Melvin Shorter, C.P., Assisting
Rev. Brian Flanagan, Retired
Deacon Gregory C. Quinn

10970 Jack Nicklaus Dr. North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Phone (561)626-1873
Fax (561)626-4383
Web Site: www.paulcross.org
Email: office@paulcross.org
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
5:00 PM  For Louis & Helen Stroker
        by The Stroker & Sedor Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30 AM  For Michael & Sophia Sedor
        by The Sedor & Stroker Families
9:00 AM  For the intentions of The Cerini Family
        by The Lammert Family
10:45 AM For the intentions of our parishioners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 PM  For Rena & James Allen
        by The Sedor & Stroker Families
8:00 PM  Charles E. Kelley
        by The Sedor & Stroker Families
11:00 PM The deceased members
        of the Cervelli & D’Amico Families
        by their children & grandchildren

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS
7:30 AM  For the intentions of Bob & Annette Lesser
9:00 AM  For the intentions of Russell & Edith Smith
        by their family
10:45 AM For Dr. Ronald Dudan by his family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
8:00 AM  For John Gioia by his loving wife, Patty
5:30 PM  For Carmen Berrido
        by her daughter Diana Bello

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27
8:00 AM  For the intentions of Kathleen Ancona
        by Patti Wengierski
5:30 PM  For Catherine Gerard
        by her husband & family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28
8:00 AM  For Elaine Doran by her daughter, Patty
5:30 PM  For Leo McVicker by his loving wife, Bidou

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29
8:00 AM  For Frank Karwatt
        by Karen, John & Alexander Fagard
5:30 PM  For Charlie Godberson by Dora Godberson

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
8:00 AM  For the intentions of Deanna Morel
        by The Legion of Mary
5:00 PM  For Henri Pericat
        by Dr. & Mrs. Richard Bason

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 - NEW YEARS EVE
7:30 AM  For Stella Flisek by Bob & Annette Lesser
9:00 AM  For The Lammert & Cerini Families
10:45 AM For William Werner by his friends
5:00 PM  For the intentions of our parishioners
Loving God, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the doors of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake. Amen

The Clergy and Staff wish all our Parishioners and their Families a BLESSED and JOYOUS CHRISTMAS!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25  CHRISTMAS DAY
7:30 AM - James Hook
9:00 AM - Andrea Taffe
10:45 AM - David Ancona

FOR DECEMBER 30/31
Sat., 5:00 PM - John Ozog
Sun., 7:30 AM - Andrea Taffe
  9:00 AM - Margaret Collins
  10:45 AM - Joan Cashon
  5:00 PM - Tim Wengierski

Baptisms
Celebrated on the second Sunday of each month at 12:00pm. Parents are encouraged to attend instruction class prior to the birth of their first baby. Call the Office to register.
Next Baptism Class is Saturday, January 13th

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
Sunday, December 24 and Monday, December 25
Sunday, January 31 and Monday, January 1

SUNDAY OFFERING
FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
$13,570.00
Online $1,454.00

God Bless You and Thank You for your generosity in supporting your church!

This week, December 25th, at a glance...
Monday: MERRY CHRISTMAS
  OFFICE CLOSED   NO EVENING MASS
Tuesday:
  8:30 AM Legion of Mary
  1:30 PM Bereavement Group
  6:10 PM Legion of Mary
Wednesday:
Thursday:
  7:30 PM Charismatic Prayer Group
Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday:
  Sunday: NEW YEARS EVE—OFFICE CLOSED
Monday: HAPPY NEW YEAR—OFFICE CLOSED
Looking forward to, in the near future:
Mondays 5:30 PM - Al-Anon Meeting; 1/14 & 1/21 Christ Child Layette collection; 1/20 4th Annual Parish Fashion Show, Luncheon and new Boutique; 1/27 Neapolitan Knight; 3/2 Parish Casino Night

Marriages
Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please call the Parish Office.
Our beautiful Ave Maria Banquet Room (capacity 325) and our Parish Hall (capacity 175) are available for rental for approved adult receptions and gatherings for occasions connected with church events.

God Bless You
and
Thank You
for your generosity in supporting your church!

Website:
www.osvonlinegiving.com
or call 1-800-348-2886, Ext. 4 or email online giving @osv.com

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
Sunday, December 24 and Monday, December 25
Sunday, January 31 and Monday, January 1

SUNDAY OFFERING
FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
$13,570.00
Online $1,454.00

God Bless You and Thank You for your generosity in supporting your church!

This week, December 25th, at a glance...
Monday: MERRY CHRISTMAS
  OFFICE CLOSED   NO EVENING MASS
Tuesday:
  8:30 AM Legion of Mary
  1:30 PM Bereavement Group
  6:10 PM Legion of Mary
Wednesday:
Thursday:
  7:30 PM Charismatic Prayer Group
Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday:
  Sunday: NEW YEARS EVE—OFFICE CLOSED
Monday: HAPPY NEW YEAR—OFFICE CLOSED
Looking forward to, in the near future:
Mondays 5:30 PM - Al-Anon Meeting; 1/14 & 1/21 Christ Child Layette collection; 1/20 4th Annual Parish Fashion Show, Luncheon and new Boutique; 1/27 Neapolitan Knight; 3/2 Parish Casino Night

Marriages
Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please call the Parish Office.
Our beautiful Ave Maria Banquet Room (capacity 325) and our Parish Hall (capacity 175) are available for rental for approved adult receptions and gatherings for occasions connected with church events.
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GOD’S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God’s promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God’s name, poetically turns around David’s plan to build a house for God, and announces God’s plan to build a “house,” that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it’s amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]</td>
<td>Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To prepare for the Readings of Dec. 30/31

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3. Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or Psalm 105. Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19. Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).
Your donations assist the poor in many ways. Poor boxes are located near the doors of the church. Please drop your dollar bills and loose change and help us help others.

Thank you and God bless you!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

ST. VINCENT de PAUL Thrift Store
250 W. INDIANTOWN ROAD #108
Call 561-401-9585
Mon. - Fri. 10am-4pm & Sat. 9am-3pm
Merry Christmas!!

Seminarian Robinson Aza
was born in Cali, Colombia. Robinson is the youngest of five brothers. He began as an altar server while he was an elementary student at his parish school. Robinson advanced to sacristan in secondary school. He dedicated himself to serving his beloved community of faith at St. Mark Parish in his hometown.

Robinson is not new to the Diocese of Palm Beach. He studied for our Diocese before and graduated in 2008 from St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami. He then returned to Colombia to care for his sick father, who, after couple months, passed away. In 2015, Robinson Aza, returned to the Diocese to continue his studies and now is in his second year in theology studies at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach. As part of his formation toward the priesthood, he will begin a pastoral program at St. Paul of the Cross in January 2018. He is happy to be part of this parish, “where people choose to belong.” He is very happy with his studies, but above all, he is very happy to serve and grow in his ministry in this community.

Some of his hobbies are: listening to music, reading and enjoying a movie with his friends. Among his favorite prayers are to the Virgin Mary and the Holy Spirit. One of Robinson’s favorite verses of the Holy Scriptures is 1 Thessalonians 5: 17: “Pray without ceasing.” According to him, it is the key to handling these times.
2nd Sunday Lunch Bunch Group
2017--2018 Season
We will meet on the 2nd Sunday through April 8th
Grande’s Bella Cucina  4580 Donald Ross Rd. Suite 119

RESERVATIONS & Information please contact
Annette Law Beverly 561-389-0985 or
annette.beverly@gmail.com

January 14th @ 11:30 AM  $20  Dennis Richards,
Safe Harbor Financial Resources Investment

Calling all  YOUNG ADULTS  &  YOUNG FAMILIES

Join us for a fun night of mini-golf, ice cream, and
fellowship at 6:30pm on Friday, January 5th at
Lighthouse Cove, Jupiter! Young Adults, young
families and their children are welcome to show off
their skills as we get to know each other and
grow in faith together!

More info can be found on the website at
www.paulcross.org!  More dates to come!

LIFT Worship Night
Come join us for a NEW monthly night of
praise and worship, a dynamic talk, and
Eucharistic Adoration with teens and
families from across the diocese!

For more information you may contact
our Director of Family Life Ministries,
Jon Niven by phone at 626-1873 or
by email at jon.niven@paulcross.org

Upcoming dates: Mar. 8th, April 12th, May 10th

VIII
March 9, 10 and 11, 2018
Applications are available for this inspiring Parish Retreat!
Treat yourself to a joy-filled weekend with fellow parishioners or give the gift of a retreat to someone you love!

for coffee, donuts and fellowship after all Sunday morning Masses
in the Parish Hall.

Listen to Catholic radio at 98.3 FM or
to live streaming at CatholicRadioPalmBeach.com.
Columbette meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, the next meeting is Jan. 17th at 7 PM in the Coffee House. Refreshments begin at 6:30 PM.

New Parishioners - Registration forms are available on our website, in the office during the week, and in the vestibule of the church in the wall rack.

Registered Parishioners - Please help keep our census current by advising us of any changes of address, phone numbers, and family additions or deletions. SO...

For every new registration and any updates made for registered parishioners the family will receive $20 Casino Cash to use at the Parish Casino Night in March!! Thank you for helping us to keep our records up to date!

Are you or a loved one in need of a CARING FRIEND to take you to Mass, shopping, or a doctor's appointment, etc.? Please contact Lee Vaughan at 561-309-3692 or the parish office at 561-626-1873.

Knights of Columbus general meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month; the next meeting is Wed., Jan. 10th (officers meet on the 1st Wed.; the next meeting is Wed., Jan. 3rd) at 7 PM in the Coffee House.

VAN MINISTRY

There is an opportunity for several volunteers to help with the food ministry on Saturdays. Each team packs bags and delivers food to the underprivileged elderly in our communities one Saturday per month.

Please contact the parish office to volunteer or for more information.
PLEASE NOTE: Please call the Parish Office if you are being admitted to the hospital or know of someone in our parish who requests a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister. Names will remain on the prayer list for two months, unless notified.

Please pray for the men and women in our armed forces stationed overseas, for the military commanders who lead them, for President Trump and his advisors and for:


Merciful Father, You desire the welfare of all your children. Stretch out Your protecting arm over our men and women in the service. Shield them from every danger to body, mind and soul. Comfort them in loneliness, sustain them in hardship, give them the courage they need to fulfill their duty and so do Your will in all things. Bestow on our leaders and the leaders of the world the wisdom and prudence which will bring peace and justice to all. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord. Amen. Mary, help of Christians, pray for us.