

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Edmond Bresh, Walter Isaacs, Tom Milos, Jen Fry, Annette Krietler, Nancy Sirois, Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Donald Squezzello, Nancy Anzalone, Jane Pelland, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Judy DiLorenzo, and Robin Lupinski.

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all those affected by the Coronavirus.

## NEWS

### Christmas Flower Donations

Thank you to these individuals who donated to purchase the Christmas flowers this year. Carol Petrino in memory of William Petrino, Martha & Joseph Swiatek, Joseph Swiatek Jr, Beatrice Petrino & John Petrino; Paul Lonzenski in memory of Marilyn Lonzenski, Frances Lonzenski & Joseph Lonzenski; Nancy Sirois in memory of Robert Sirois & Roberta Discenza; Margaret Krasko in memory of Margaret & William Miller, Helen & Edmond Krasko; Darlene Kopka in honor of all essential workers; Valerie Chernesky in memory of Mike Chernesky, Stanley & Mary Wilk, Michael & Mary Chernesky; Anthony & Justine Pirulli in memory of Carol Misurale & Lori Pirulli; Nancy Anzalone in memory of Michael Raslavsky & Desiree Anzalone.

### A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark, the shortest and simplest of the four gospels believed to be written around A.D. 65-75, gives a crisp and fast-moving look at the life of Christ. It is possible to capture the message of the Gospel of Mark in a single verse: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served; he came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people." (Mark 10:45) Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move, instantly responsive to the will of the Father. By preaching, teaching, and healing, he ministers to the needs of others even to the point of death. After the Resurrection, he commissions his followers to

continue his work in his power – servants following in the steps of the perfect Servant.

Mark can be outlined as follows: prologue (1:1-15); Jesus, Messiah - Teacher, Healer (1:16-8:21); Jesus, suffering Messiah - Son of Man (8:22-10:52); Jesus in Jerusalem (11:1-13:37); the Passion and Resurrection (14:1-16:20).

## PARISH CALENDAR

**By the Week: All activities suspended until further notice.**

**Saturdays:** Stepping Class with Mercy Tabernacle  
10:00 am-12:00 pm

**Sundays:** Mercy Tabernacle Church  
12:30 - 2:30 pm  
Cub Scouts 5:45-7:30 pm

**Mondays:** Scouts 7:00-8:30 pm

**Tuesdays:** Mercy Tabernacle Church  
6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Wednesdays:** Mass for Healing, 9:00am  
AA Meeting 12:00 pm

**Thursdays:** AA Men's Meeting 7:30 pm

### Readers Roster:

The roster will be updated when services resume.

We celebrate the Contemporary Rite of the Mass, which begins on page 63 of the pew missal.

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ We Have Faith**



**Presider** In a world where churches lie empty, doors are shut, and people seem to have no room for religion anymore, God, we call upon you to come.

*Participant 1 lights the candles of Hope, Love and Joy*

**Participant 1** In this season of Advent, we wait for Your Presence to be felt in our lives again. We await the birth of Jesus, the Savior of All, who comes into our lives in a new way.

*Participant 2 lights the fourth candle, the candle of Faith*

**Participant 2** Come, Messiah, Come, and Save Us!

**Presider** Let us pray.

**All** Dear God, we pray that our faith may be renewed once more, and that we may relive the wonder of your love in our lives. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

***St. Joseph of Stratford***

## ***National Catholic Church***



***December 20, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B***

**Dear Parishioners,**

In today's reading from the Second Book of Samuel the Lord instructs Nathan the prophet to tell King David, "I have been with you wherever you went." This is true because the Lord is omnipresent, meaning present in all places at all times. With this awareness in mind how might we choose to conduct ourselves knowing that we are always in the presence of the Lord? This is expressed beautifully in Psalm 139,

*"If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast." (Psalm 139: 9-10 NRSV)*

Grace and peace,  
Fr. Tom

### **Parish Contacts**

*PASTOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance Secretary*  
Barbara Chernesky

### **Mass Times**

Mass celebrations are Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm & Sunday Morning at 10:00am

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