

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 2015

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

During Advent, we do look forward to the coming of Christ. However, as I have mentioned before, the Gospel passages at the Masses on the last Sunday of the Church's calendar year and the first Sunday of the calendar year (last week and this week) speak about the end of time. In other words, they speak about the second coming of Christ.

You see, the Church is trying to help us prepare to welcome Jesus into our lives more and more at all times, not only for Christmas. Thus, during Advent we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Christ, the first coming of God into the world as Savior and Messiah. We remember that Jesus was born 2000 years ago, and of course, we want to celebrate on December 25th with our whole mind and heart and soul. Therefore, we spend some time in the weeks of Advent thinking of the greatness of the gift of God's Son and the love that God has for us. In reality, that is supposed to be the main focus for the last part of Advent. The first two weeks or so are meant to be a time of anticipation for the second coming. Again, Advent basically means the Coming, so the various comings of Christ should truly come together as one in our prayer. In addition to Christ's birth and His coming at the end of time, there are also the many ways Jesus comes to us here and now (especially in the sacraments) as well as the coming of Christ at the end of our lives on earth. That is an individual coming of Christ to each of us. In anticipation of all of the comings of Christ, joy and gratitude should be our stance, not fear, but sometimes it is hard to have that outlook. The Gospels speak of fright for those who are not prepared or ready, which is precisely why the Church helps us to prepare.

We desire to be united with Christ in His love now and forever. Advent and Christmas should help us to remember God's love and the reason for our Joy. Blessed Advent!

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco



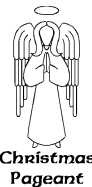
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent Season is a time to look forward to Christ's coming. The Advent Wreath is a circle of four candles, each candle representing a week of Advent. The family may gather around the wreath, recite a short prayer and light the appropriate number of candles. As each week passes, one more candle is lit to remind the family that Christ's birthday is getting closer. The purple candles remind us of our need for penance. The Rose candle (third week) reminds us Christmas joy is truly near.

Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

Lord God,
Let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

(Someone lights the first purple candle)



Christmas
Pageant

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS

The next pageant rehearsal will be held on December 5, 2015 at 11am in the Church.

If you would like to be a part of this year's Christmas Pageant there is still time to join.

Please come to the rehearsal on Saturday at 11am in the Church to sign up or you can call the Rectory Office at 357-0035. **The Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 20 at 7pm.**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2015**

(Always a Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, Vigil Mass – 5:30pm

**Tuesday, Masses: 7:00am, 9:00am, 12:10pm
7:30pm Mass**

SACRED HEART PARISH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On Saturday, December 12, 2015 beginning at 11am please come join us to stroll down main street for our annual Christmas caroling. If you would like to join us please RSVP by Friday, December 11th to the Sacred Heart rectory office at 357-0035.

THANK YOU!

We wish to thank all those who donated to the Thanksgiving Turkey Baskets. We would also like to thank the Knights of Columbus who collected food for our baskets, and the Vincent Crotty Foundation for their generous donations.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 29

CYO – 2 to 4pm in the gym

Monday, November 30

Rel. Ed. Grade 6 – 4:30pm in the school

Rel. Ed. – Grade 7 – 7:00pm in the school

CYO – 5-9pm in the gym

Novena –7:15pm

Tuesday, December 1

Rel. Ed. – Grades 3-5 – 4:30pm in the school

CYO – 5-9pm in the gym

Rel. Ed. – Grade 8 – 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 2

CYO – 5-9pm in the gym

Choir – 7:00pm in the Church

HSA Board Mtg. – in the Library

RCIA –7:30pm in the rectory

Hispanic Prayer Group – 8pm in the cafeteria

Thursday, December 3

CYO – 5-9pm in the gym

Friday, December 4 First Friday

SH School - Marketplace

Exposition – 1:00pm

Holy Hour – 7:00pm

Saturday, December 5

SH School HSA Breakfast with Santa – Off site

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – church 11am

St. Joseph Group – 7:30am in the Rectory

Sunday, December 6

CYO – 2 to 4pm in the gym

SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

Due to early printing of this bulletin totals will be reported in the upcoming bulletin.

INCREASED OFFERING CAMPAIGN

(Updated totals will be printed next week)

As you know, our parish is undertaking an Increased Offering Campaign. I asked that every family prayerfully consider increasing their weekly gift to our parish. So far, we have increased our offertory by a total of \$12,828. over 7 weeks to help our parish. (Weeks 8 and 9 will be reported next week.) That is fantastic! What an important difference even a small increase can make! If anyone would like to make their contributions online, please go to www.sacredheartparish.org to the Parish Pay symbol and sign up.

PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Pastor's Annual report was distributed in last week's bulletin. Copies of the report can be found in the back of the Church and can also be viewed online at www.sacredheartparish.org.

PRAY FOR PEACE

Please pray for an end to violence and terror in our world and especially now for the victims of the recent terrorist attacks.

THE GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree is an Advent fixture here at Sacred Heart and many other parishes. This effort highlights the generosity of our parishioners towards those who can use some help. Please take one (or more) of the *colored tags* and give them a gift from your heart. Your thoughtfulness will bring great joy to our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Giving Tree donations go to Good Counsel Homes, Birthright, Ramapo Manor, homeless and others in need. **Gifts are due by Sunday, December 13th.**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS BASKETS

We are requesting canned hams and non-perishable food for Christmas Baskets for the needy. Please leave your donations in the rear of the church in the boxes provided. Hams requiring refrigeration can be placed in bin outside in the parking lot (there is sign on the garage). Baskets will be distributed on Monday, December 21. **Deadline for donations: Sunday, December 20.** Thank you.

CATHOLIC WIDOW AND WIDOWERS CLUB OF ROCKLAND COUNTY

The Catholic Widow and Widowers Club of Rockland County next meeting will be on, March 20th at 6:30pm at St. Augustine's Church (downstairs). Dessert and coffee will be served. Guests are welcome. For information call Dotty at 845-623-1739. There are no meetings in December, January or February. See you in March 2016

CRISIS PREGNANCY HOTLINE GOOD COUNSEL HOMES

For Pregnancy emergencies call Any time of day:
1-800-723-8331 www.goodcounselhomes.org

ANUNCIOS

El Grupo de Oración en Español tiene lugar habitualmente los miércoles, a las 8 de la noche en el cafetería.

Los próximos bautizos en español tendrán lugar el 19 de diciembre 2015 a la 1pm. Contactar en el 357-0035.

BANNS OF MATRIMONY

For The Second Time
Gabriel Bravo and Rocio Marin



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

We pray for all those serving in the **Armed Forces** and for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Larry Adler, Keith Alanis, Daniel Albarelli, Frank Paul Allegretti, Jenna Applebaum, Christine Arehart, Andrew Biondo, Boano Family, Harris Brownstein, Lisa Eckert Brownstein, Annette Burbridge, Frank Calfa, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Lorraine Cortez, Lilla DiBerardino, Teresa Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, Joan Donahue, Nickie Douglas, Florence Downey, John Duffy, Nicholas Eckert, Peter Eckert, Jamie Erwin, Denise Ferrara, Stefanie Gaudelli, Tia Gardner, Gio Vannia Gasparre, Arlene Gentile, Debra Gravina, John Grasso, Anne Hart, Sarah Hyman, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Verna & Susan Jarkiewicz, Mary Kierman, Anthony Kulik, Jay Leone, Nick Liso, Laura Mack, Thomas Mathai, Barbara Mazza, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, Ken Meyer, Christine Mengan, Florence Mohan, Chic Nappo, Betty O'Brien, Jennifer O'Hara, Tina Osika, Patricia Plotkin, Adolf Radeljic, Etta Rooney, Mary Russo, Daniel Sammarone, Nicholas Salzman, Susan Saladino, Erica Scully, Fred Schwally, Frank Schwarz, Ruth Schwetz, Claudia Spano, Maureen Starke, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Margaret Szaro, Carol Van Vandt, Kenneth Vanadio, and Millie Vazquez.



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, friends, benefactors, relatives, priests and religious. We especially remember the names on our All Souls Envelopes and those in our hearts.

ALTAR MEMORIALS

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2015

Altar Wines In Memory of
DOLORES MENDOLIA

Altar Breads In Memory of
MARY ELLEN MCGILLYCUDDY

Altar Candles In Memory Of
JOHN BUKOWSKI II

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory Of
HENRY J. & PALMA M. HECK



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 28

9:00am – Henry J. Heck

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASSES FOR SUNDAY

6:00pm – Andrew Haggerty, Jr.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 First Sunday of Advent

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Pauline McPhillips

10:00am – Aline Hendrickson

11:30am – Margaret Desimone

1:00pm – Parish Memorial Society

5:30pm – Catherine Halloran

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:00am – Joan Morro

9:00am – Juan Opulencia

7:15pm – **Novena**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:00am – Rosa Trifilio

9:00am – Special Intentions Veronique Hazell

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00am – Joseph Mulligan

9:00am – Helen McKellin

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:00am – Emiliana Siminig & Demetrio

9:00am – Ralph Jeffrey

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 First Friday

7:00am – Frank Doyle

9:00am – Donna Sanok

1:00pm – **Exposition**

7:00pm – **Holy Hour**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00am – Henry J. & Palma M. Heck

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASSES FOR SUNDAY

6:00pm – Elvira Gagliano

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Eileen Nunes

10:00am – Michael & Caroline Plewak

11:30am – Andrew Statham

1:00pm – Parish Memorial Society

5:30pm – William Halloran

BOOSTER CLUB WINNER

WEEK 19- FRANK CALFA