

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2016

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners:

How beautiful our Church looks for this Holy Season of Advent, a serene and noble simplicity in anticipation of the joy of Christmas. It obviously doesn't happen without a lot of work. Once again, a special thank you to Henry Antonucci, who is such a treasure to this Parish. He spent the entire day on Friday after Thanksgiving getting the Church ready for Advent, with help from volunteers from our Confirmation Class, and Christine Schnabel, who never stops giving of herself for this Parish. Again, Thank you!

This Second Sunday of Advent brings us right into the heart of this season of preparation as the Gospel takes us back to the Jordan River and the preaching of John the Baptist: *"Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand."* The people of Israel patiently waited for centuries for the Messiah to come to free them from their captivity, that is, captivity to sin which brought about so much misery in their lives. They were keenly aware that they could not save themselves, that they needed a Savior. All the prophets spoke of His coming up until John the Baptist, who pointed Him out when at last He came. John is the "Voice crying out in the wilderness" spoken of by the Prophet Isaiah: *"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."* That is, make straight His path into our lives and into our hearts. Sin is an obstacle on that path preventing us from receiving the Lord with joy.

Repentance, conversion, change of heart, is at the heart of our Advent preparation for the coming of the Lord. Real conversion has two aspects. One is turning toward the Lord, and most want to do that. But the second aspect is turning away from sin, and that is what often holds us back. What are the sins, what are the obstacles in my life preventing the coming of Jesus more fully into my heart? Whatever it may be, our Lord wants to take it from us and give us His Peace. That is precisely what Jesus does for us every time we come to Him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Many think that Confession is not necessary anymore, that all I need to do is tell God I am sorry in my heart. But that is only half of it. That interior conversion and contrition is first and necessary, but then it needs to be expressed as we confess our sins in this beautiful Sacrament of inner

peace that was willed and given to us by Jesus, Himself.

May we heed these encouraging words of Pope Francis: *"Do not be afraid of Confession! When one is on line to go to Confession, one feels all these things, even shame, but then when one finishes Confession one leaves free, grand, beautiful, forgiven, candid, happy. This is the beauty of Confession! I would like you to ask yourself: when was the last time you went to Confession...two days, two weeks, two years, twenty years, forty years? And if much time has passed, do not lose another day. Go, the priest will be good."*

There is no greater gift we could receive this Christmas than the inner peace, serenity, and joy that flow from this beautiful Sacrament of Divine Mercy. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Matthew J. Furey

SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT CONFESSIONS 2016

Saturday, December 17– 3:00 to 5:00pm

Monday, December 19 – 4:00 to 8:00pm

Reconciliation Monday

(Blessed Sacrament will be exposed)

Friday, December 23 – 12:00 Noon to 1pm



Prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent

O Lord, stir up our hearts to prepare the way of your beloved Son, so that, through His coming on earth, we may serve you always with pure intentions. We ask this though Our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son.

(Someone lights two purple candles.)

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2016

(Always a Holy Day of Obligation)

Confessions 4:30pm Monday

Wednesday, Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Thursday, Masses:

7:00am, 9:00am, 12:10pm & 7:30pm

OUR LADY'S GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY



Our Lady's Guild invites all the ladies of the Parish to join them at "Our Lady's Guild Christmas Party", Friday **December 16th** at 6pm in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$20 per person. For information please call Rosemary McCormick at 357-1485. Please bring an unwrapped baby gift and/or cleaning supplies for Birth Right. Thank you for your generosity!

SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

November 20th Collection – \$13,803.
Last Year's Collection - \$16,352.
November 27th Collection - \$14,152.
Last Year's Collection – \$17,523.
Human Development – \$4,457
Last Year's Collection - \$4,857.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 4

CYO – 2 to 4pm in the gym

Monday, December 5

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

CYO Basketball- 5pm in the gym

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

Hispanic RCIA – 7:00pm rectory

Parish Council Mtg. – 7:30 in the rectory

Novena –7:15pm

Tuesday, December 6

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

CYO Basketball- 5pm in the gym

Rel. Ed. – Grade 8 – 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 7

CYO Basketball- 5pm in the gym

Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception- 5:30pm

Hispanic Prayer Group – 8pm in the cafeteria

Thursday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

SH School – early dismissal 11am

Holy Day Masses – 7am, 9am, 12:10pm & 7:30pm

Friday, December 9

Prayer Shawl Meeting– 1pm in the convent

Saturday, December 10

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

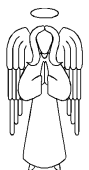
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – 11am church

Sunday, December 11

CYO Basketball – 2pm in the gym

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS

The next rehearsal will be held on December 10, at 11am in the Church. To sign up call the Rectory Office at 357-0035.



Christmas
Pageant

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 19. **Deadline for donations: Wednesday, December 14.** Thank you.

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 *ornaments* (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 11th.**

SACRED HEART PARISH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On Saturday, December 17, 2016 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 16th to the Sacred Heart rectory office at 357-0035.

ST. ANTHONY'S CEMETERY

St. Anthony's Cemetery is pleased to announce that our cemetery expansion is completed. We will begin selling pre-need graves on Monday, Dec. 5th, by Appointment Only. No Walk-Ins Please. Contact the Office to schedule your appointment (845-623-2138) Ext.7 Mon.-Fri. 9am to 3:30pm. Or visit the website at www.stanthonyscatholiccemetery.com

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 10 de diciembre 2016 a la 1pm. Contactar en el 357-0035.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome into the Roman Catholic Faith and our Parish Community, the following children who were recently baptized at Sacred Heart:

FAITH XIOMARA RODRIQUEZ

Daughter of Mercedes

MADISON FLOREZ

Daughter of Antonio and Angela

RUTILA COYT-CEJA

Daughter of Ignacio and Belen

JOSELYN RAMIREZ-ROJAS

Daughter of Jose and Erika



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, Peter Boano, Harris Brownstein, Lisa Eckert Brownstein, Annette Burbridge, Dolores Cangelose, Frank Calfa, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Lorraine Cortez, Robert Cosenza, Joe Davey, Lilla DiBerardino, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, Florence Downey, John Duffy, Nicholas Eckert, Peter Eckert, Jamie Erwin, Denise Ferrara, Stefanie Gaudelli, Tia Gardner, Arlene Gentile, Debra Gravina, John Grasso, Sarah Hyman, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Susan Jarkiewicz, Adrienne Kelly, Mary Kierman, Jon Kip, Anthony Kulik, Jay Leone, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Laura Mack, Thomas Mathai, Barbara Mazza, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Fr. Louis Molinelli, Betty O'Brien, Jennifer O'Hara, Fr. Jack Oldfield, Stacey Olayan, Tina Osika, Joseph Pasculli, Patricia Plotkin, Adolf Radeljic, Maura Reynolds, Etta Rooney, Mary Russo, Virginia Ryan, Daniel Sammarone, Nicholas Salzman, Eleanor Scelza, Erica Scully, Ruth Schwetz, Jean Simons, Claudia Spano, Claudia Spallanzani, Kate Stack, Maureen Starke, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Margaret Szaro, James P. Toner, Phyllis Varacalli, Carol Van Vandt, Millie Vazquez and Irene Wanamaker.**

ALTAR MEMORIALS

DECEMBER 4, 2016

**Altar Wines in Memory of
JOHN HILLIN**

**Altar Candles in Memory of
ELLEN NUNES**

**Sanctuary Candle in Memory of
RALPH MASCRA SR.**

BOOSTER CLUB WINNER

WEEK 7- THOMAS PUGLIESE



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

9:00am – Martha Becker

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

6:00pm – Avie DiPasquale

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:00am – Eileen Nunes

8:30am – Parish Memorial Society

10:00am – Joey Dunado

11:30am – Andrew Statham

1:00pm – Frank Doyle

5:30pm – All Parishioners

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:00am – Catherine Halloran

9:00am – Patrick Mahaney

7:15pm – **Novena**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:00am – William Halloran

9:00am – Joseph Mahon

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:00am – Albino Filipuzzo

9:00am – Mr. & Mrs. Howard Jewell

5:30pm – Special Intentions Veronique, Matthew, Gregory & Rebecca Hazell

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 Immaculate Conception

7:00am – Special Intentions Cynthia Huffine

9:00am – Deceased Members of the Fisher Family

12:10pm – Daniel Greeley

7:30pm – Claire Horskey

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00am – Emil Knips

9:00am – Michael Hetherington

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00am – Special Intention Fiona Frank

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

6:00pm – Anthony Sulesky

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 2ND Sunday of Advent

7:00am – Nora & Richard McKiever

8:30am – Parish Memorial Society

10:00am – Aloysius Witt

11:30am – David & Theresa Nalpadan

1:00pm – Juan Oplencia & Armando Bulaon

5:30pm – All Parishioners



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, friends, benefactors, relatives, priests, religious and especially **Antonio Russo and Joseph Cestone.**