

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## DECEMBER 8, 2019

### FROM OUR PRIESTS' DESKS:

Second Sunday of Advent 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Sacred Heart:

The vocation of Saint John The Baptist, by today's standards especially, is truly remarkable. His calling had nothing to do with attaining riches or popularity or glamour; all the contrary. We are told that he spent his days in the desert barely clothed and only eating locusts and wild honey. He knew he had a single specific calling: To prepare others for the way of The Lord! He wasn't concerned about his appearance nor what others' opinions were of him.

We, too, are called to be "voices crying out in the wilderness" to others: To bring the marvelous news that Jesus is the sole Savior of the world!

### **Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 3:1-12*

John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah ([2 Kings 1:8](#)). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

### **A SPECIAL ADVENT EVENING OF PRAYER**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
HERE AT SACRED HEART CHURCH  
AT 7:00PM**

Come join us for this prayerful service of Readings from Sacred Scripture and Sacred Music to prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of the Birth of our Savior.



### **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 MONDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**



**(NOT A Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Monday Masses:**

**7:00am, 9:00am**

**7:00pm ADVENT REFLECTION**

## SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT CONFESSIONS 2019

**Monday, December 16– 4:00 to 8:00pm**  
**Reconciliation Monday**  
(Blessed Sacrament will be exposed)

**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 noon to 1:00pm**  
**Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – 3:00 to 5:00pm**



### THE GIVING TREE

This effort highlights the generosity of our parishioners towards those who can use some help. The Giving Tree donations go to Good Counsel Homes, Birthright, Ramapo Manor, needy children, homeless and others in need. **Gifts are due by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 11AM TO 12:15PM SATURDAYS



Next rehearsal is December 7 at 11am in the Church. The Pageant will be on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with a reception following. All children ages 3 and up are welcome to join.

### PARISH CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 8 Immaculate Conception**

**Monday, December 9**

Rel Ed. – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Rel Ed. – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Advent Reflections – 7:00pm

**Tuesday, December 10**

CYO – 5:30pm to 9:00pm

Rel. Ed. Grades 3–5 – 4:30pm

Rel. Ed. Grade 8 – 7:00pm

Choir – 7:00pm – Church Loft

Prayer Group – 7:30pm in the Rectory Chapel

**Wednesday, December 11**

RCIA – Rectory 7:00pm

Hispanic Prayer Group – 8:00pm in the cafeteria

**Thursday, December 12**

CYO Basketball – gym 5:30 to 9:00pm

**Friday, December 13**

**Saturday, December 14**

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

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – 11am

Christmas Caroling in the Village – 11am

**Sunday, December 15**

Christmas Pageant - 7:00pm in the Church

### SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

**Christ the King - \$11,664.**

**Last year-\$13,258.**

**Catholic Charity & Justice -\$3,307.**

**Last Year - \$4,481.**

**1<sup>st</sup> of Advent - \$10,462.**

**Last Year's- \$14,721.**

### 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 Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. **Deadline for donations: Sunday, December 15.** Thank you.

### PARAMUS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CONGRATULATIONS!

We wish to extend congratulations to some of our parishioner students at Paramus Catholic who have achieved honors:

**Principal's List:** Kenyatta Lorvil

**Second Honors:** Elijon and Jaseth King

### SACRED HEART CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING

#### IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

Please join us for Caroling in the Village on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 11:00am. We will all meet in the Sacred Heart parking lot and stroll down main Street. Please let us know if you will be joining us by Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> by calling the rectory office at 845-357-0035. Come be a part of the most wonderful time of the year and bring some Christmas joy to the Village.

### ENVELOPES

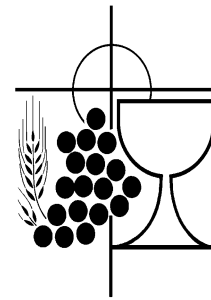
We wish to apologize to all our parishioners for the lateness of the envelopes again this month. We have been in contact with the envelope company expressing the unacceptability of the lateness. Last month we took into effect that the company had moved their mailing plant but this month we have let them know that this is not going to be tolerated moving forward. Sorry for the inconvenience to all.

### ANUNCIOS

El Grupo de Oración en Español tiene lugar habitualmente los miércoles, a las 8 de la noche en la cafetería. Los próximos bautizos en español tendrán lugar el 21 de diciembre 2019 a la 1pm. Contactar en el 357-0035.



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Keith Alanis, Jenna Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Pat Brady, Annette Burbridge, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Roy Harris, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Susan Jarkiewicz, Anna Kasperska, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Rosemarie Manthey, Matthew Luludis, Marie Marasuilo, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Rich McDowell, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Joseph Mikulka, Barbara Neilson, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Shace Paljusevic, Peter Princi, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly Frank Salveggi, Janet Schwartz, Ruth Schwetz, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing, and Vladimir Zaslavsky.



**SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

**SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS**

5:30pm – Aniela & Stanislaw Sobilo

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent**

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Special Intention Alan Petukh

10:00am – Special Intention Cynthia Huffine

11:30am – Elizabeth Hurley

1:00pm – Armando Bulaon & Juan Opulencia, Sr.

5:30pm – Parish Memorial Society

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9**

7:00am – Deceased Member of the Curtin & Goodfellow Families

9:00am – Thomas Reuter

7:00pm – Advent Reflection

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10**

7:00am – Special Intention Fiona Frank

9:00am – Carmela DiGiovanni

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11**

7:00am – Special Intention Alan Petukh

9:00am – Deceased Members of the Biondo & McPhillips Families

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12**

7:00am – Special Intentions Mateusz Kasperski

9:00pm – Maureen Tomori

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**

7:00am – Special Intention of Anna Kasperska

9:00am – Joseph & Joseph B. Varano

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

9:00am – Carlos Tirado

**SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS**

5:30pm – Harold Gravius

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**

7:00am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Alma Greenidge

10:00am – Special Intention Anita Kalathara

11:30am – Peter Manghisi

1:00pm – Lester & Walter Bernstein

5:30pm – Parish Memorial Society



**FOR OUR ARMED FORCES**

We pray for all the men and women serving our country in the armed forces especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

**ALTAR MEMORIALS**

**DECEMBER 8, 2019**

Altar Candles In Memory of

**PATRICIA ATTANASIO**

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of

**JOHN DANIELLO**



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones especially:

**Josephine Bracken, Raymond Gutierrez, Albert Schepis and Robert Holodak**

**BOOSTER CLUB**

**WEEK 18- RON & JOANNA DOMINIANNI**