

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Since this will be the shortest Advent possible, let's continue on with some ideas on how to make it the best we can:

Advent Dinners: Make the Sundays of Advent into something special. Prepare a nice dinner or host a potluck and invite over family & friends. This would be a great time to light the candles on your Advent wreath and invite all to join in the special prayers for that week.

Prepare Seasonal Food: Many historically Catholic countries have traditions of preparing food that goes with the liturgical seasons, especially Advent and Christmas. Catholic bloggers are doing a great job of making these traditions more popular for all Catholics.

Advent Devotional Reading: There are lots of great Advent books that take you deeper into the profound theology of Advent. God comes to us as a Child, and this is amazing to think about! Going through each day with devotional reading is one of the best ways to spiritually prepare yourself for Christmas, the birth of the King of Kings.

Special Prayers: Adopt special prayers during the Advent season. You can often find them in Advent devotional books. There is also the St. Andrew Christmas Novena which is traditionally prayed from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve. Another tradition is praying the O Antiphons from the Liturgy of the Hours in the eight days leading up to Christmas. The O Antiphons are the antiphons of the Evening Prayers (Vespers) during the week before Christmas. Each antiphon welcome the birth of the Savior by heralding one of the resplendent Biblical titles of the soon-to-be-born Son of God as foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah.

Advent Calendars: Another popular way to celebrate the Advent season, especially popular with children, is the Advent calendar. Counting down the days to Christmas helps children to anticipate patiently and to focus on waiting for the baby Jesus to be born. You can purchase one, or make one as a fun craft time for kids.

Advent Music: Make your own playlist of music appropriate for Advent which anticipates Christ's birth.

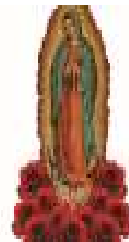
Nativity Scenes: Nativity sets are a classic tradition and are great to display during the Advent season. To make the display especially poignant, wait until Christmas Eve to place the Baby Jesus into the scene. The Vatican has a neat tradition of the Holy Father blessing the Baby Jesus from family nativity scenes, called Babinelli Sunday. This takes place on the third Sunday of Advent—Gaudete Sunday. Perhaps you could ask Deacon Rich, Father Csete, or me; to bless your Baby Jesus figure!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

Reconciliation Monday will be on December 18th. A priest will be available to hear confessions from 4pm until 8pm.



Christmas Food Baskets— We are collecting non- perishable items for Christmas food baskets. Please place all items in the blue bins in the Narthex. We will be collecting hams and turkeys on Tuesday, December 19th or call the parish office.



There will be a Spanish Mass on Tuesday, December 12th at 7pm for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Confessions will be heard in English and Spanish, prior to the Mass.

Liturgical Ministers for December 16th/17th, 2017

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	L. AVELLA	D. LIVINGSTON, W. PONDS, T. WEBB	N. WEBB, A. WEBB
8:30AM	M. LATINI	J. HENDRICK, S. RIORDAN, N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER	E. TRUJILLO, A. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	T. MARION, M. ADAMCIK	Z. ADAMCIK, S. CUELLO, A. ST. LOUIS

The second collection this weekend is for the Retired Religious. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

F.A.I.T.H. invites all parishioners to
Sounds of the Season
An evening of Christmas Caroling
Monday, December 11th
Join us for all or part
of the night!

Meet at Bon Secours @ 4:15; St. Joseph's Place @
4:30

Water's Edge @ 5:30

Back to church for pizza then more caroling in
town

all times are approximate

E-mail Danielle: daninyg89@frontiernet.net

In the spirit of Christmas, we are continuing our tradition of a "GIVING TREE." We are supporting both the local Elks Lodge and the Port Jervis High School Rotary Interact Club in their efforts to provide winter outerwear items for needy children and teens in our community. A donation of \$10 or more would be greatly appreciated; every \$50 will sponsor one child. Doves are on the Christmas tree in the narthex for your convenience. They may be returned in the attached envelope, in the collection basket or at the parish office, by Monday, December 18. Checks may be made payable to St. Mary's. Thank you for your support!



The K of C Council# 471 is hosting
Breakfast with Santa
on Sunday, December 17th at the
Most Sacred Heart Hall.
All proceeds to benefit
St. Mary's Food Pantry.
Adults \$7 Children \$5

We are happy to announce that we have access to **Formed** for another year! You can create your own account **FREE** of charge at Formed.org and use our parish access code **WXXVJT** to gain access to multiple programs, movies, ebooks, and audios.

Career Opportunity— The Knights of Columbus is seeking a candidate for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information: Contact Bill Schneider, General Agent at 914-420-6836 or william.schneider@kofc.org.

Save The Date! Catholic Daughters Tricky Tray Sunday,
January 14th in the Most Sacred Heart Hall.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, December 11 (Demasus I, pope)**
9:00am Joseph Lashendock, Jr., by Maria Esling
Kathleen Wright, by the Murphy children
- Tuesday, December 12 (Our Lady of Guadalupe)**
9:00am Anita Grillo, by Joe, Stephen, and Chris
In Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, December 13 (Lucy, virgin and martyr)**
9:00am Michael Canfield, by Maria and
Dominick Rodano
- Thursday, December 14 (John of the Cross, priest
and doctor of the Church)**
9:00am Anne Morey, by Dr. Jane Brooks
- Saturday, December 16**
4:00pm Joseph Kucher, Jr., by mom and family
- Sunday, December 17**
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
11:30am Helen Costic, by the family



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, In Thanksgiving, by Dan and Theresa Kavanagh.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Chapel, in memory of Julie Olenick, by Joyce Senkiew.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Sue Fitzsimmons, Barbara Straub, Robert Cinerar, Sandy Osbourne, Theresa Kavanagh, John McKean, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Walter Szipakowicz, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Thomas Davies, Pat Arnold, William Gaide, Sue Arnold, Steve Wilkinson, William Thomas, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Dotty Lynch, Jesse G Smith, Charlie Gard, Marge Evans, Kaitlyn Smith, Jerome Smith, Joseph Fritts, Patricia Meinhold, Susan Upton, Devin Upton, Kathy Drane, Jenna Smith, Danielle Devore, Jennifer Utz, Jacqueline Hamilton, Tonya Cannon, Ryan O'Connor, Peter Billman, Helen Andreano, Tito Rivera, Maryann Gasko, Chris Marion III, and Carson Fuller.

The collection for December 2/3 was \$6559.
Thank you for your continued generosity.