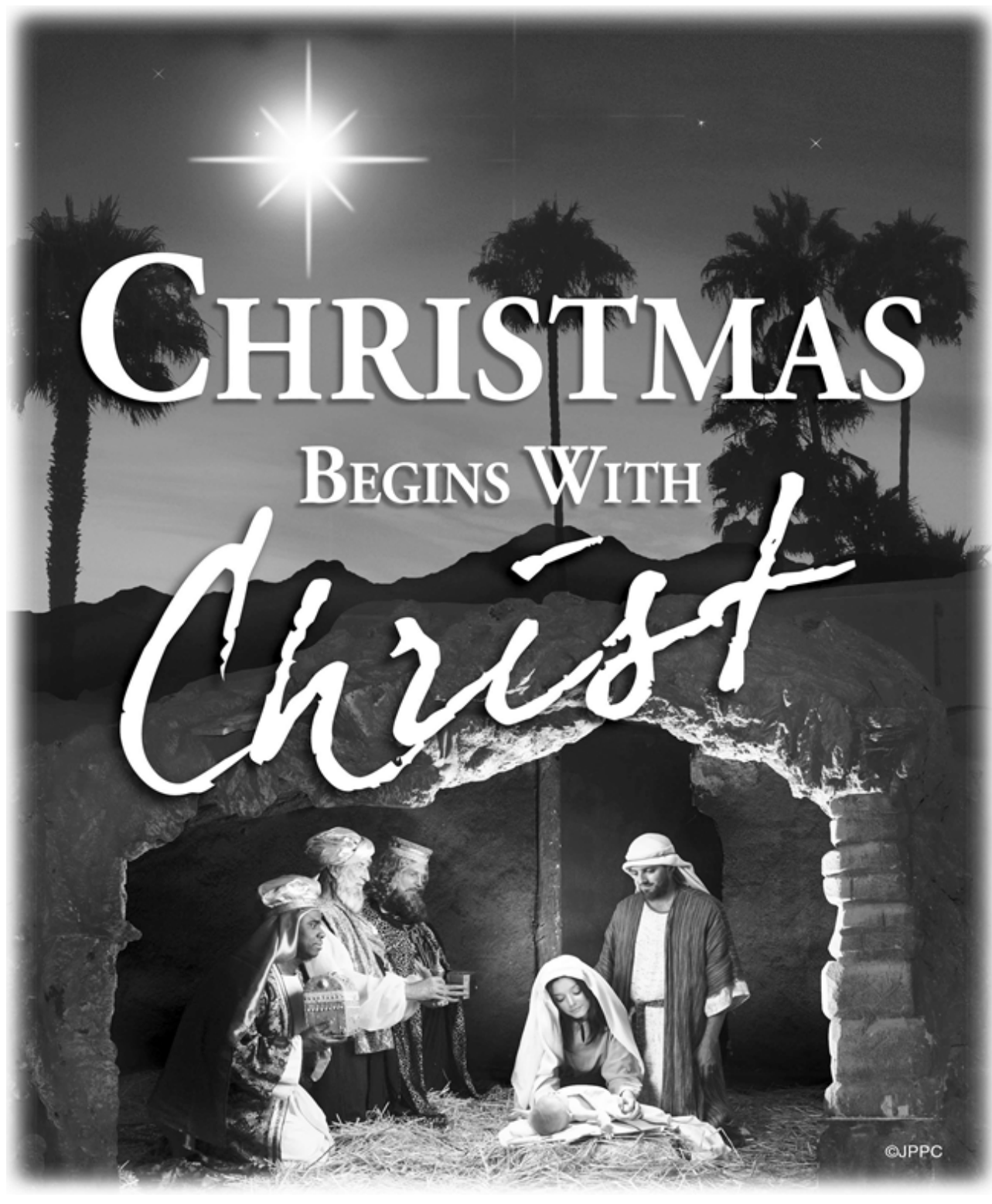


# St. Francis de Sales Catholic Community



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# December 23, 2018

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” -- Luke 1:42

### Mass Intentions


#### Week of December 22nd – December 27th

Sat	12/22	5:00p	
Sun	12/23	9:00a	†Helen & Buddy Vallie req. by Son
Sun	12/23	10:30a	†Giorgio Armani req. by Luisa Armani and Family
Mon	12/24	5:00p	†James Cordo req. by the Tiso Family
Mon	12/24	10:00p	
Tues	12/25	9:00a	†Jim Barden req. by the Tiso Family
Wed	12/26	8:00a	
Thur	12/27	8:00a	


#### Weekend of December 29th – December 30th

Sat	12/29	5:00p	†Joey Vallie req. anonymously
Sun	12/30	9:00a	
Sun	12/30	10:30a	

#### Weekend Lectors

Sat	12/22	5:00p	Wolfrom	
Sun	12/23	9:00a	Tretter, Garcia-McWhinnie	
Sun	12/23	10:30a	Brown, Pavone	

#### Weekend Eucharistic Ministers

Sat	12/22	5:00p	Zorn, DeMaria, Fiore	
Sun	12/23	9:00a	Di Ciervo, Nilsen, Rowe	
Sun	12/23	10:30a	Bloodgood, Ullmann, Paultre	

#### Weekend Ushers

Jerry Baltz      Bill Caton      Frank Raucht  
John Sansone      Rick Nace      Ed Zorn

#### Readings for the Week of December 24 (Year C)

**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79  
**Tuesday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25  
 Night: Is 9:1-6; Lk 2:1-14  
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Lk 2:15-20  
 Day: Is 52:7-10; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14  
**Wednesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22  
**Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a and 2-8  
**Friday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18  
**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35  
**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Lk 2:41-52

December 16 Regular Collection &  
Fuel/Utility Collection to be reported next week

### Scripture Reflection

#### Joyful Anticipation of the Messiah

Do you recognize the indwelling presence of the Lord Jesus in your life? Blessed are you if you see and recognize the Lord with the "eyes of faith." It describes a kind of joy which is serene and untouchable, self-contained, and independent from chance and changing circumstances of life.

There is a certain paradox for those "blessed" by the Lord. Mary was given the "blessedness" of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. Mary received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. Her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises.

Jesus promised his disciples that "no one will take your joy from you." The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. Do you know the joy of a life given over to God in faith and trust?

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us to enable us to know and experience the indwelling presence of God and the power of his kingdom. The Holy Spirit is the way in which God reigns within each of us. Do you live in the joy and knowledge of God's indwelling presence with you through his Holy Spirit? Copyright 2018, *Don Schwager*: [www.dailyscripture.net](http://www.dailyscripture.net). Reprinted with permission



“The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.” – Luke 1:49

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Novena to Our Lady of La Salette:** There will be no 8:00 am Mass on **Monday, December 24th**. Our Lady of La Salette, *Reconciler of Sinners, pray without ceasing for us, who have recourse to you.*"

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Children's Religious Education classes are held on **Sunday's following 9:00 am Mass**. Next classes will be held **Dec. 23 and January 6, 13, 27**. For information or to register a child, call Religious Education Coordinator, Gerry Nilsen, 687-9769.



### Songs - 9:00 am Mass:

**Peace Time lyrics (during the Sign of Peace):** "Peace Time, Peace Time, time for Making Peace. Peace time, Peace time, time to say I forgive you. Time for saying I love you. Time to live as Friends."

### Recessional Hymn: "Soon & Very Soon"

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King;  
(Hallelujah)

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King;  
(Hallelujah)

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King;  
(Hallelujah, Hallelujah, We are going to see the King!)

**THE JESSE TREE:** The tree is in full bloom now. The gifts have all been distributed for Christmas. Thank you! Check next week's bulletin for a glimpse at our helper elves sorting gifts for distribution to our community.



**TAI CHI CLASSES:** Tai Chi classes in our parish hall will resume Tuesday, **January 8th at 3:00 pm** and thereafter every Tuesday at the same time.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Today the Church celebrates the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We light the last candle on our Advent wreath and our preparation for Christmas is almost finished. We also reach the culmination of the O Antiphons. In previous antiphons our cry was directed to the Messiah as He manifested Himself to the Chosen People, to the Gentiles, and in nature; now He is addressed in person and asked to remain with us as Emmanuel.

Reading this final antiphon gives the feeling that a climax has indeed come. The very term Emmanuel, God with us,

reveals the kindly, human heart of Jesus — He wants to be one of us, a Child of man, with all our human weakness and suffering; He wants to experience how hard it is to be man. He wants to remain with us to the end of time, He wants to dwell within us, He wants to make us share His nature. Source: catholicculture.org

### CATHOLIC TV PROGRAMMING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY:

#### SOLEMN MASS OF CHRISTMAS EVE IN ROME...

Pope Francis celebrates the Solemnity of the Birth of Our Lord from St. Peter's Basilica.

Monday, 12/24, 3:30 PM (2 hrs)

Tuesday, 12/25 4:00 AM (2 hrs)

#### URBI ET ORBI: POPE'S MESSAGE AND BLESSING FOR CHRISTMAS...

Pope Francis delivers his Christmas blessing to the city of Rome and the world.

Tuesday, 12/25, 6:00 AM (30 mins); repeated at 3:00 PM and 11:00 PM.

#### CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT...

Annual Christmas concert features angelic voices and sounds of the Christmas Season.

Tuesday, 12/25, 9:30 AM (1-1/2 hrs)

#### SOLEMN MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY...

The Solemn Mass of Christmas from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Tuesday, 12/25, 12:00 PM (1-1/2 hrs)

(Above listings for EWTN Cable Network on Spectrum Cable Service – Channel 97 in this area. Please check your cable service provider for EWTN channel and/or other special Christmas programming).

### MASS INTENTIONS for 2018 and 2019:

To offer a Mass for a loved one, contact Fr. Raphael or parish secretary, Vikki Hall at 688-5617. Vikki is in the parish office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings. An "Intention Book" for your personal prayer requests is located on the podium in the back of the church (near the Tree of Life). These prayer requests are also remembered at our Masses. Thank you.



PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE COMING OF OUR

*Lord Jesus Christ!*

## Special Occasions & Celebrations

**December Celebrations:** May God bless all our parishioners who have special birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations this month!



### “Happy Birthday!”

Ashton (Rel Ed) (12/7); Finola Ryan (12/9); Cheryl Bender (12/14); Gene DeStefano (12/15); Bob Barrack (12/16).

*May God bless you every day with health, love, and everlasting happiness.*

Share your good news with the parish; drop info in the collection basket, email [or](mailto:jap120@hvc.rr.com) contact Judy at 688-9912, [jap120@hvc.rr.com](mailto:jap120@hvc.rr.com).

## SERBIAN SPRUCE TREE FUNDRAISER

Thank you for supporting this fundraising effort. We raised over \$300 dollars for the parish. Special thanks to Shawn Lahey, a friend to our parish and nurseryman from Migliorelli’s Farm Stand who helped make this possible. Thank you all for your generosity!

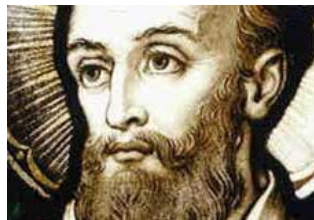
### **DECEMBER 28 – FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS (MARTYRS)**

*We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*

The Winter 2018-2019 edition of **Archways**, the quarterly magazine of the Archdiocese of New York, is now available! This issue is digital-only. View or download it at [archny.org/archways](http://archny.org/archways).

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*Do all by love and nothing by force. We must help one another as much as we can and leave the rest to God. The love of God is without peer, because the goodness of God is a peerless goodness. – St Francis de Sales*



## **St. Francis de Sales “Tree of Life”**

Our “Tree of Life” located in the back of the church



invites parishioners and friends of the parish to donate a “leaf” to remember a loved one, or to honor living friends and family members. The occasion might be a sacramental celebration (wedding, anniversary, baptism, first Eucharist), a milestone birthday, a special event, like Mother’s Day, a

holiday gift, or simply a chance to support the parish in a unique way. Each week, in our Prayers of the Faithful, we raise up the intentions of those represented on our “Tree of Life,” so the blessings are continuous. Our prayers make it a living tree. Call the Rectory for information on how you can purchase an inscribed leaf for your family.

**PASTORAL CARE VISITS:** If his schedule permits, Father Raphael would like to make a pastoral care visit to parishioners that are hospitalized, in rehab or recuperating at home. If you plan to visit a loved one and have room for one more in your car, please inform Father. If available, he’ll go with you to bring spiritual nourishment for those who cannot attend Mass due to illness or confinement. In any event, please let Father know if you or a loved one are ever hospitalized or infirmed.



*Thank you for the heartfelt prayers for healing. Please contact the rectory if you have a name to add or a name that can be removed. Thank you for your courtesy.*

Russell Abbrecht, Luisa Armani, Laureen Aversa, Jerry Baltz, Cheryl Bender, Rick Bicanovsky, Sheila Madera-Brown, Ellen Burmeister, Ryan Callahan, Liam Casey, Ben Cole, Ed Dannen, Lillian DiPasqua, Betty Djerf, Iris D’Agostino, Honey Fecci, Ernest Fudge, Sr., Lois Giambrone, Dorothy Gorman, Chris Hall, Victoria Hall, Catherine Hand, Etta Hanigan, Dolores Harvey, Rosemarie and Erwin Hildenhagen, Fr. George Hommel, Laurie Hoy, Justin Kolb, Josephine Klonfas, Kathy Kretschmer, Amada Lumbaca, Zee Marek, Helen Morelli, Diana Munch, Doris Murphy, Gerry Nilsen, Janet Oakes, Florence Palmer, Claire Paultre, Judy Pavone, Nicholas Percoco, Sylvia Persons, Franca Ravetier, Joel Rivera, John Rossett, Mary Ellen Rury, Jon Rowe, Catherine Ryan, Michael Ryder, Pat Ryder, Zoila Santa, Martha Santicola, Bert Shafer, Gladys Gilbert Spiegler; Marie Stutman, Dorothy and John Sylak, Fr. Phil Tran, Sonja Turner, Sharon Umhey, Angie Valentino, Stephanie Vesely, Bruce Wallace, Bob Walsh, Ellen Watson, Catherine Whitelaw, Greg Zaff. *Please also pray for our men and women in military service.*

“The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.” – Luke 1:49

## PARISH CALENDAR

<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Children's Mass: 5:00 pm</b>
<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: 10:00 pm</b>
<b>Dec 25</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am</b>

### PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS CHRISTMAS

*We extend our best wishes to all our families, friends and visitors in this Holy Season and throughout the New Year. Thank you for your generous support, prayers and well wishes. God bless you all and your families.*

**- St. Francis de Sales Parish**



### SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS

<p>In Memory of Jerry Bender by his Loving Daughters</p>	<p>Thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on our parish and may we continue to grow in faith and love. – The Gormley Family</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Barbara Caton. By son, William</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of my dear husband, Tony, and beloved son, Anthony. – Angie Valentino &amp; Family</p>
<p>Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us. The Morelli Family</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Jack and Virginia Fleming and John Fleming, Jr. by Veronica &amp; Jon Rowe</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of my beloved wife, Harriet, our mom &amp; brother Frank, by Frank Rauchut, John, Veronica &amp; Joseph</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of my dear husband Romeo and my beloved son, Joseph by Saveria "Honey" Fecci</p>
<p>In Loving Memory... James P. Hefferan and daughter Maureen Hefferan Swezey, by Iris D'Agostino and Family.</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Lawrence Monachelli and Eleanor Monachelli. – Mike &amp; Eileen O'Connor</p>	<p>In Honor of my family and friends living &amp; deceased. May God bless us all and grant us world peace. – Lois Giambrone</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of Vic Cammardella by Helen &amp; Family <i>"The measure of love is to love without measure."</i> – St. Francis de Sales</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of our Parents, Marian &amp; Howard and Grandparents, Callaghan and Umhey, and all our Loved Ones. -The Howard Umhey Family</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of my beloved wife, Josie, our parents, and our siblings. – Dick Morra</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of our beloved parents, John &amp; Frances Rauchut, Alfred &amp; Veronica Grace and our deceased brothers and sisters.</p>	<p><i>Carmelo &amp; Barbara</i> <i>Two Together</i> <i>Forever</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of Patricia and Terry Buchanan by the Wolfrom Family</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of our beloved parents, Lillian and Henry Miller and Mildred and William DiPasqua, and our deceased brothers.</p>	<p>Pray to the Infant Jesus of Prague. In Memory of George and Mary Wallace, George L. &amp; William T. Wallace &amp; Eric Kohlroser. – The Wallace Family</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of our parents, Jack &amp; Sue Tiso and Anthony &amp; Florence Persichilli by Charles, Joe, Margie, Pam &amp; Susan</p>