

**Third Sunday in Advent
December 13, 2020**



Masses for the Week

Saturday	Joe & Bridie Reid	5:00pm
Sunday	People of the Parish	8:00am
Sunday	Anthony & Flo Wade	10:00am
Monday	St. John of the Cross Francis Graff	5:30pm
Tuesday	Jim Fay	8:00am
Wednesday	Phylis Novohradiky	5:15pm
Thursday	Marie Dombrowski	8:00am
Friday	Tom Merck	5:30pm
Saturday	William & Elizabeth Zentner	5:00pm

Please Pray for Our Sick

Fanny Bonventre, Lorraine DeFelicis, Eva Dittmar, Pat Fay, Brian Hathaway, Sr. Maureen Jerkowski, Fred Kimlin, Maureen Krom, Lynne Lazzaro, Mary McNamara, Lucy Padilla, Joseph Papparone, Joe Petras, William Schlossher, Norma Smosarski, Alice Theiss, Thomas Vavrinec, Luisa Walsh

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Holiday Mass Schedule Change

Our Holy Day Mass scheduled for Christmas has changed.

We will have 2 Vigil Masses on Thursday the 24th one at 4:00pm and one at 6:00pm

Friday, Christmas Day
8:00am & 10:00am

This should help to safely accommodate our parishioners.

**Second Collection Retirement Appeal
December 12th & 13th**

Soon our parishes will collect the offering for the Retirement Fund for Religious, this benefits 30,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

Our elderly religious offer a shining example of what it means to "serve the Lord with gladness" During their days of active ministry, they worked tirelessly to build Catholic schools and hospitals, promote social justice and embrace the neediest among us. Inspired by love, their service, past and present is marked by joy and a desire to do God's will.

As you know, many religious communities find it difficult to provide for aging members. Your gift which will be collected December 12 & 13th will allow for vital funding for medications, nursing care and more. We are all asked to support many worthy causes. So, I invite you to give what you can and to pray for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Remember, they are praying..

With gratitude and prayerful best wishes to all for a blessed Advent season, I am,
Faithfully yours in Christ,
Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan

Flower Memorial Fund

Envelopes for Christmas memorials are in the rear of the church. Just fill in the envelope and place it in any first collection basket. We are indebted to our parishioners who choose to remember their deceased loved ones by contributing to this fund. It is the primary means we have for funding the decoration of the sanctuary.



Prepare your heart for Christmas

Reconciliation Monday

Monday, December 21st, we will celebrate our Advent Reconciliation Monday. The time will be from 4-8pm in the confessionals in the rear of the Church.



Giving Tree

Christmas Gifts & Food

We are collecting Christmas gifts for local youngsters. Gift tags for children in need are on the tag tree in the rear of the Church. Please attach the tag to the gift you donate. We ask that you place an **unwrapped** gift in a gift bag.

Food items for our Christmas baskets are also appreciated. We provide the hams and ask for other food items to make a tasty meal. No expired food items, please. Bring the gifts and food **no later** than December 17th.

SHOEBOX THANK YOU

For whatever part you played to fill a shoebox and put a smile on the face of a child, showing them Jesus' Love, THANK YOU!!! Your generosity is AMAZING.

We, at St Peter's, were able to ship 80 boxes to children who may never before have received a Christmas gift. Some of you put boxes together, and some of you donated

beautiful handmade knitted items and sewing kits, beanie babies, toiletries, clothing and then, so generous in covering the shipping cost. I wish I could Thank You individually. You know who you are and I am Thanking You from the children. May your Christmas be Blessed, as You have blessed these 80 children, showing them God's Love.



CELEBRATING ADVENT

The season of Advent is a joyous time of preparation for the coming of our Lord at Christmas. It is also a time to reflect on the loving presence of Jesus already among us and within us. The following are websites with ideas on how to celebrate this special season. www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent
www.loyolapress.com/liturgical-year-advent-activities.htm
www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent
www.dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever
www.franciscanmedia.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-advent
www.catholicmom.com/advent_kids.htm
www.passionatepennypincher.com/reverse-advent-calendar/
 And there's also a great (and free!) app called "Laudate" with many resources for Advent and for the entire liturgical year.

2020 Mariapolis Luminosa Virtual Nativity Display



The Focolare Movement at Mariapolis Luminosa is presenting their 2020 International Nativity Display virtually. Each week during Advent a different episode will be presented. Visit our Virtual Nativity Display and share this gift with your family and friends. <https://youtu.be/hD27EcYrzdE>
 We wish you and your families a wonderful Advent and Christmas season.
 For more information, visit <https://www.focolare.org/mariapolisluminosa>



BIBLE STUDY online

St. Augustine Church in Highland is hosting an online Bible Study, facilitated by Sean Fitzgerald. Anyone wishing to learn more about praying to Jesus with the Scriptures is welcome to join. Each week, the group will be study and meditate on Scripture readings for the following Sunday. For more info and for the link contact Sean at 8457979258 or at staugusteen@gmail.com

Remember Christ this Christmas



Shop until you drop! Buying, having, possessing and allowing your possessions to possess you! Sad to say, this has all become the modern immediate preparation for Christmas. Moreover, in many places even the word "Christmas" has been forbidden from modern vocabulary.

Jesus is the reason for the season. The whole focus of Advent which culminates in the Solemnity of Christmas is a *person!* That person is Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus is the true reason for the entire season. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in the humble, poor stable of Bethlehem. The name "Jesus" means Savior. He came to open up the gates of heaven, to save us from slavery to sin, the devil, and eternal damnation. This Christmas let us contemplate the Person of Jesus and the purpose of His mission. Let our hearts overflow in humble praise and thanksgiving. St. Ignatius of Loyola accentuates the fact that Jesus did all of this not simply for humanity as a whole but for you and I, individually. Jesus was born, suffered, died and rose from the dead for me, as if I were the only person in the universe. How important I am for God! How important Christmas—the birth of Jesus—should be for me. *Fr. Ed Broom, OMV*

UCOFA Online Learning for Seniors

December 17: One -Pot Creamy Mushroom & Pasta Presented by Juanita Bryant, UCOFA Registered Dietitian R.S.V.P. by December 15, 2020 Noon to 2:00 P.M. Free to Ulster County Seniors age 60 and over. Call Ulster County Office for the Aging at 845-340-3456 to R.S.V.P. and receive confirmation email about joining the presentation online or dial-in.

OFA Volunteer

During the past six months, more Seniors than ever are now shut in and isolated. If you'd like to volunteer to give Seniors a friendly call every week, they would greatly appreciate it. Your effort would help to improve the lives of Seniors in our community. If you'd like to help a Senior in need, contact Patrick McDonough at the OFA Volunteer Program: 845-802-7935 or pmcd@co.ulster.ny.us.

Rosary Altar Society

Next weekend team *three* is scheduled.