

Parish of St. Sylvester

Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2017

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*

—Mark 1:3



Liturgies and Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Dec. 9 - Vigil Mass - Second Sunday of Advent
4:00 p.m. = Anna Makar

Sunday, Dec. 10- Second Sunday of Advent
7:30 a.m. = for the Parish family
10:00 a.m. = Bambino Di Placido
12:00 noon = Thomas Rosano

Monday, Dec. 11- St. Damasus I, Pope
8:30 a.m. = John O'Neill

Tuesday, Dec. 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
8:30 a.m. = Michael O'Donnell (*happy b'day. in heaven*)

Wednesday, Dec. 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
8:30 a.m. = Edward Claborn
7:00 p.m. = HOUR OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday, Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
8:30 a.m. = Eutropia Serag

Friday, Dec. 15- Advent weekday
8:30 a.m. = José Lumberas

Saturday, Dec. 16- Advent weekday
9:00 a.m. = Toni Rosenwasser

Saturday, Dec. 16 - Vigil Mass - Second Sunday of Advent
4:00 p.m. = Nicholas Foremsky

Sunday, Dec. 17- Second Sunday of Advent
7:30 a.m. = Anna Ciriano
10:00 a.m. = Loretta Ann Pepe (*1st Anniversary*)
12:00 noon = deceased members of the McCoy family
and Mary Bhatia



Weekly Collections

Our Parish Family's
Support on . . .

Nov. 26, 2017

First Collection - \$5,195.00

Reserve Fund - \$1,196.00



PLEASE PRAY . . . for those anticipating a hospital stay, recuperating, and the homebound in our parish and in our families. Please keep this list near the place where you pray each day so that you remember them throughout the week.

Victor Andrea, Joseph Bertolini, Cecilia Brennan, Nancy J. Bushman, Antonia Carlino, Lucille Chatznoff, Frances Cirincione, Stephen Cucci, Fr. Paul Duffy, MM, Robert Golden, Dr. Nicolas C. Lansigan, Jr., Thomas Galvin, Connie Garbarino, Richard Hassel, Bridget Kehley, Frank Labano, Louis Matos, George Moresca, Delia Murguia, Amy O'Donnell, Linda Orber, Lee Poyntz, Carmela Rogan, Phyllis Savarese, Annette Scardigno, Louise Stanley, John and Ann Vincenzo

Please let us know if anyone for whom we are praying has recovered from illness/surgery so that we may rejoice with you and then make room for others in need of prayer. Thank you.



Lord, hold our troops safe in your loving hands . . .

Seaman Daniel Brennan - U. S. Navy
SR Francis S. Cummings - U. S. Navy
SR Michael J. Cummings - U. S. Navy
Col. Jeffrey N. Davila, MD - U. S. Air Force
Francesca DiSimone-Biggins - U.S. M.C.
Lucia DiSimone-Biggins - U. S. M.C.
Ryan Foley - U.S. M.C.
Alvin S. Joseph II - U. S. Navy
Lt. Col. Jay Le Pore - U. S. Air Force in Japan
Col. Patrick J. Mahaney, Jr. - U. S. Army
Prescod Montgomery - U. S. Army in Iraq
Ens. II Steven Pasignajen-Trimble - U.S. Navy/Persian Gulf
Samuel Rios - U. S. Air Force
Darrin Sack
Joseph Somma - U. S. Marine Corps
Major Michael Volpe - U. S. Army
Has someone here been transferred, demobilized, discharged, retired? Please let us know.



This week the Sanctuary Lamp burning before the tabernacle is offered for

Michael O'Donnell

happy birthday in heaven!

Bread and Wine at all the Masses this week are offered for

Michael O'Donnell

happy birthday in heaven!





Pastor's Corner



My Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday, the first day of Advent, our parish family welcomed this season of expectation with the lighting of our new and thriving Christmas tree. At 5 o'clock all the strings of lights—carefully set in place by Matt, with friends Don and John—bloomed into color. Our Cantor Rebekah Samuel led us in the singing of Christmas Carols with talent which encouraged all to join in.

With the night's chill encouraging us we moved to the Parish Hall, prepared for the occasion as always by Frank Quinn. The Women's Guild awaited us with warm beverages and a full selection of sweet treats.

As music continued I privately gave thanks for the wonderful volunteers who fill the parish family and rise to each need. Thank you all!

Small note: Now there may have been one or two who might say that the lights failed (for a bit). However, the glitch was fixed and you will see the welcome of our parish family Christmas tree every evening as you go by.

Now, on to another thought . . .

There is at times a fine line between faith and superstition. From time to time, for example, we must remove from the church piles of little papers that have a prayer—sometimes to St. Jude, at other times to Our Lady. The prayers themselves are quite nice but are so often accompanied by a statement that one must make a certain large number of copies and put them around a church. If one does so, then within a specific number of days the thing for which one was praying will automatically and without fail be granted. It is this statement that *advances a superstition* and the reason why someone's good if misguided intentions have been thwarted.

We then feel the need to pray for that unknown person and ask God to grant his or her petition according to God's will and in God's good time. It is this latter that brings the petition out of the realm of superstition and allows it to be an act of faith.

Keep smiling,

Fr. Jacob



St. Sylvester Parish family welcomes
Jaritza Itzel Palomeque-Alvarez
daughter of
Guadalupe Palomeque
presented to the Lord by
her Godfather, **José Javier Guzman**
and
her Godmother, **Blanca Campos**
on **Sunday, November 26, 2017**



*From Death
to New Life*

*May the souls of our dearly departed rest in
the peace of God, and may their loved ones
find comfort and reassurance in God, our
Father.*

Angelo E. Ciaravino
Salvatore Filippino



**THE STATEN ISLAND BALLET'S
NUTCRACKER**

*This professional production brings grace and
good will as we celebrate the greatest gift.*

Sat., Dec. 16 - 2 PM and 5 PM
Sun., Dec. 17 - 2 PM and 5 PM
Charge by phone (718-980-0500) ~\$50/\$40
all seats reserved
CSI Center for the Arts, 2800 Victory Blvd.

MEDICARE CARD SCAM REPORTED

Congress passed a law in 2015 that requires the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to remove Social Security numbers from all Medicare cards, which they will start doing in April 2018. New beneficiaries will get the modernized cards first, and then new cards will be issued to existing beneficiaries. This is an important change to help prevent fraud and protect people's identity, but as with any new change, scammers are taking advantage of potential confusion.

Medicare beneficiaries are getting calls claiming to be from Medicare asking for payment to receive the new Medicare card, or asking them to verify their Medicare number.

Know that Medicare will never call to verify your number because they already have it. Also, there is no cost to get your new card. If you get a call like this hang up immediately.