



# Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 4, 2016



*They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ~ Isaiah 11:9*

## Weekly Mass Intentions



### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday December 3

8:00am - †  
5:00pm- † Richard Nouvertne  
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by:  
By: Peg & Tom Ventrudo

#### Sunday December 4

8:30am-† MaryAnn Fair  
10:00am- † Florence Forlenza  
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions  
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions  
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Judith Cappadora  
Offered by: Family

#### Monday December 5

8:00am- † DeSimone Family  
12:05pm- † Rosendo Cintron

Offered by: Annette Esposito  
Offered by: Sisters

#### Tuesday December 6

8:00am- †  
12:05pm- †

Offered by:  
Offered by:

#### Wednesday December 7

8:00am - †  
12:05pm-†

Offered by:  
Offered by:

#### Thursday December 8

8:00am- † Rosemarie Gortler  
12:05pm- ~ Special Intentions of Christian Pepo

Offered by: Bernard Campbell  
Offered by: mom, Joyce Pepo

#### Friday December 9

8:00am- † Isabel Maria Quiñones  
12:05pm- †

Offered by: daughter, Marta  
Offered by:

#### Saturday December 10

8:00am- † Ivan Delgado ~*Birthday in Heaven*~  
5:00pm- † Walter & Jean Wright

Offered by: mother, Mayra  
Offered by: Rafaela LaMorte

#### Sunday December 11

8:30am- † Msgr. Augustin J. DiBlasi & Pat  
10:00am- † Harvey Urbach

Offered by: Family  
Offered by: Rich Nacchio

## Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine  
Tabernacle Candle



~ †  
~ *Special Intentions of Eladio Ortega*  
Offered by: son, **Gabriel Jesus Ortega**

Memorial Candle  
Memorial Candle

~ †  
~ †

### Liturgical Minster's Schedule DECEMBER 2016

#### Saturday 5:00 PM

Lector: Linda Graves & Tom Ventrudo (carry Gospel Book)  
E. M.: Linford Smith & Peg & Tom Ventrudo, Sub: Cinderella Wonsewitz

#### Sunday 8:30 AM

Lector: Ceferino Albarracin & Delmeter Carey (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Joan Fortunato  
E.M.: Delmeter Carey, Linda Torres & Samuel Torres Sub: Diane Carbonaro

#### Sunday 10:00 AM

Lector: Thelma Washington (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Alexis Crowdell  
E.M.: Theresa Contardo, Emmanuel Fode & Dianne Murphy Sub: Beverly Marryshow



**In his letter to the Romans for the Second Sunday of Advent, St. Paul declares that our God is a God of endurance and encouragement. How does this help us in this Advent season?**

God of endurance. Our lives are long, if not in actual years then often in terms of the challenges that we face. Some of our parishioners struggle with mental illness. Others struggle with severe financial hardships. Many of our parishioners suffer the hardship of being undocumented immigrants whose only desire is for a safe and secure life. Some of our parishioners suffer from chronic disabilities. Yes, life can be long! And life seems longer when we have to bear our hardships and sufferings alone, without support. The good news of Advent is that God came to us in the person of Jesus to share fully in our human experience. God, therefore, knows the hardships that we suffer. God knows the sufferings that afflict us. God, therefore, wishes to be our source of endurance. God wishes to be the strength that we need to endure the hardships that are ours and to find a measure of peace, perhaps even joy, in the knowledge that God is with us in all aspects of our lives, but particularly in our suffering.

God of encouragement. If life is long, then we need encouragement to persevere in our faithfulness to God and to the ways of God. God came to us in Jesus to show us the way that we should live if we want to share in God's life now and come to share in the fullness of his life after death. Jesus encourages us to make his way of selfless, generous, compassionate love our way. He encourages us to conform our lives to his truth that we are all brothers and sisters to each with other and so we all are really responsible for each other. Finally, he encourages us to make his life our own by the ways that we consciously and deliberately seek to incarnate in our lives his love, his mercy, his compassion, his generosity and his openness to all. Living in this way, we live in the sure and certain hope that our long lives will end in glory.

Find joy and strength this Advent season in the God who came to us in Jesus!

**Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J**

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."*

### **TODAY: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12

### **Next Sun: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 35:1-6,10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11



**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!** – Our Christmas Raffle has begun! We have an impressive array of baskets. Tickets are 3 for \$5.00 and 7 for \$10.00. You can choose the baskets into which you want to drop your tickets. Play now! Play often! You could win big!

**BIBLE STUDY** – Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Class will begin at 10 a.m. in the rectory. *All are welcome!*

### **A PRAYER FOR THE ADVENT SEASON:**

Oh Immanuel, God with us, truly in this Advent season we celebrate that you are not hidden in some faraway cloud, but you chose to be with us in the blur and mystery of our lives.

In the midst of lists and rush, you are with us as a song that echoes in our minds, as the light of a candle, as a card from a friend. They are signs of your presence.

We turn to you this season and pray that you would birth joy and healing, blessing and hope in us. Let something wonderful begin in us – something surprising and holy.

May your hand be upon us. Let your love fill us. Let your joy overwhelm us.

Let our longing for you be met on a coming holy night. Immanuel with us once again. *Amen.* Rev. Jerry Chism

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES** – If you would like to remember a deceased loved one during the Christmas Season, envelopes are available in the entrance to the Church. Please return your envelope to the parish office or in the collection basket. *Thank you!*

**WOMEN'S SIXTH ANNUAL ADVENT DAY of REFLECTION** – Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Vincent Ferrer Church in Manhattan (Lexington Avenue at 66<sup>th</sup> Street). 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Led by Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J. and the Sisters of Life. Mass + Opportunity for Reconciliation + Divine Mercy Chaplet + Rosary. \$25.00 Registration fee (includes lunch). Registration required. nolan.jacqueline29@gmail.com or 212-721-4507.

**CHRISTMAS TIME in SONG and DANCE:** Sunday, December 18, 5pm at St. John's University, Staten Island Campus, in the gymnasium at 300 Howard Ave. Admission is free. Presented by the Richmond County Orchestra, Alan Aurelia, Maestro. There will be special performances by the New American Youth Ballet performing excerpts from the Nutcracker, Italian Opera selections by local Staten Island singers, and a special visit from Santa Claus.

**OUR HOLY FATHER on HOPE:** Hope is a gift of God. We must ask for it. It is placed deep within each human heart in order to shed light on this life, so often troubled and clouded by so many situations that bring sadness and pain. We need to nourish the roots of our hope so that they can bear fruit; primarily, the certainty of God's closeness and compassion, despite whatever evil we have done. There is no corner of our heart that cannot be touched by God's love. Whenever someone makes a mistake, the Father's mercy is all the more present, awakening repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace. Pope Francis.

**DISPOSE OF YOUR CAR and CONTRIBUTE to GOOD WORKS** - You can donate your used car, truck or van, operational or not, to the St. Vincent DePaul Society and the St. Vincent DePaul Society will contribute \$50 or \$100 to our church. If you do not have a vehicle that is ready for retirement, perhaps a family member, friend or colleague at work does. Call the Society of St. Vincent DePaul at 718-491-2525. Please tell them that you heard of this program through Mount Carmel Church on Staten Island. *Thank you!*

**ADVENT REFLECTION:** There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves. It flows from our deeply rooted human incompleteness. Augustine uttered the classic description of this spirit: "You made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." All of us long for something more, as we make our pilgrim way. Even when human sinfulness pulls people to focus on power, pleasure, fame, or financial prosperity, they often find themselves moving aimlessly, without fulfillment. "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you." Advent celebrates human yearning. We long for the coming of the Lord. (Maloney, *Seasons in Spirituality*, p.45)

**WEEKLY OFFERING:** November 27: \$5,033. Thanksgiving: \$613 – *Thank you!!*

---

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION** - Our parish will celebrate with the Hispanic community the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of the Americas, on Sunday and Monday December 11<sup>th</sup> & December 12<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday at 7:00pm a large group, many of them in traditional costumes, will parade from Veterans Park (Park Ave & Bennett St) with Mexican musical accompaniment to Mt. Carmel Church, followed by various traditional activities, including Mariachi, and a Mass in Spanish, beginning at 10:00pm. There will be another mass on Monday at 7:00pm and this will be followed by a terrific Mexican buffet in the School Hall (285 Clove Rd.). There will be folk dancers and Mexican bands, and if it is anything like previous years, everyone will have a great time. Everyone is invited to come to both pray and rejoice with us to honor our Lady of Guadalupe.