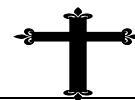
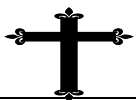


Third Sunday of Advent – December 16, 2018



Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – December 15

3:00am-† Joseph Fortunato (son)
 5:00pm-† Christopher Roland
 7:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Joan Fortunato
 Offered by: Peg & Tom Ventrudo

Sunday – December 16

8:30am-† Barbara Cicero
 10:00am-† Dominick Rubio
 11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
 1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
 5:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Marrero Family
 Offered by: Garay Family

Monday – December 17

8:00am-† Emilia Lisa
 12:05pm-† Julius F. Frank, Jr.

Offered by: OLMC Parish
 Offered by: OLMC Parish

Tuesday – December 18

8:00am-† Philomena Mezzacappa
 12:05pm- † Vincent Siringano

Offered by: OLMC Parish
 Offered by: OLMC Parish

Wednesday – December 19

8:00am-† Charles May
 12:05pm-† Eleanor Brady

Offered by: OLMC Parish
 Offered by: OLMC Parish

Thursday – December 20

8:00pm- † Bert Miraglia
 12:05pm-† Angelina T. Scamardella

Offered by: OLMC Parish
 Offered by: OLMC Parish

Friday – December 21

8:00am- † Michelina DiRienzo
 12:05pm- † Victoria Crowdell

Offered by: OLMC Parish
 By: daughter, Alexis Crowdell

Saturday – December 22

8:00am-† Rosaria & Guiseppa Vitiello
 5:00pm- † Jim & Gene Obermayer

Offered by: Frulio Family
 Offered by: Family

Sunday – December 23

8:30am-† Andrew & Ralph Frulio
 10:00am-† Susan & Patricia May
 & Andrew Buckley

Offered by: Frulio Family
 Offered by: †Barbara Miscione

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

~ *Our Lord Jesus Christ*

The candles will burn this week for the following intentions

Tabernacle Candle



~

Memorial Candle

~ **FOR ALL OUR**

Memorial Candle

~ **FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

LITURGICAL MINISTER'S SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2018

Saturday 5:00 PM - Lector: Linda Graves (carry Gospel Book)

E.M.: Linford Smith, Mary Lou Obermayer, Cinderella Wonschwitz

Sub: Peg * Tom Ventrudo

Sunday 8:30 AM - Lector: Maria Oliveras (carry Gospel Book)

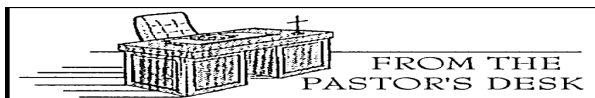
Eucharistic Ministers: Diane Carbonaro, Delmeter Carey & MaryAnn Ugbo

Sub: Joan Fortunato

Sunday 10:00 AM - Lector: Alexis Crowdell (carry Gospel Book)

Eucharistic Ministers: Crescencia Pascua, Emmanuel Fode & Thelma Washington

Sub: Dianne Murphy



"The Lord God is in the midst of US"

(Zephaniah 3:17)

Today we begin the Christmas Novena and the "Pastorelas". All the children and those of us with a young heart, feel how emotions are accelerating. The gifts will soon be at the foot of the manger and the tree illuminated. In fact, we have begun to prepare for Christmas from the very beginning of Advent although Christmas sales began almost a month ago. The proximity of the festivities is celebrated today in the liturgy with the Sunday of Gaudete or rejoicing. We rejoice in the gift that God has given us with the coming of his Son and it is not a gift to be found under the Christmas trees but in a poor manger and in the depths of our hearts.

"Shouts of joy" and "Rejoice in the Lord" proclaim the prophets Isaiah and the messengers preparing for the coming of the expected Messiah. The prophets and the whole Old Testament with them have a simple reason for joy as they may feel that "God is in the midst of his people." In the face of such a great manifestation the natural response is joy and joy, which is also expressed in the letter to the Philippians. John the Baptist's response to the crowd of sharing up to the dress reminds us of the story of Matthew 25 saying "I was hungry and you fed me... thirsty and you gave me a drink." In some ways John came forward to say how to live our faith in Christ. The faith in the Messiah that comes to save us is to live in the service and solidarity with the poorest. The scene of the end of time tells us that the wheat will be taken to the barns and the tares will be burned.

The challenge of this pre-Christmas Novena, which is also the challenge for all of our lives is to be wheat that feeds, nourishes and shares. We are not called to a sterile life but to produce fruits of life that are reflected in the salvific actions for others.

What we are and what we have been entrusted to us puts us in to the service of others-free we receive it, free we give it-our task is that fructify in works of good. The goods are destined to all, and although one holds their property, which is lawful, weighs on them a social mortgage. (Pope Francis)

Fr. Hernan, S.J.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

December 16: Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3: 14-18A
Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6
Philippians 4:4-7

December 23: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:1-4A
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Hebrew 10:5-10



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE – **Our giving tree is back!** We celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by sharing gifts with families in our community who are less fortunate. Participation can be as simple as removing an angel tag from the giving tree, purchasing the gift and returning it to the church. Join our parish families that volunteer their time and resources to bring a few more blessings to others during the Christmas season. *We express our deepest appreciation for your generosity!*

ADVENT PREPARATION - Fr. Marc J. Roselli, S.J. is offering a session series on Thursday mornings from 10:30am to 11:30am. "Praying with advent themes: FAITH, HOPE, LOVE and JOY." Join us as we come together in anticipation of Christ's coming. Even if you missed the prior Thursday session, you may still attend the remaining 2 sessions. Let us recapture the original purpose of Advent so that we can receive the gift that the Lord wants to give us at His Nativity.

LET US "SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!" (Psalm 90) - During the season of Advent we will be singing some new music at the English Masses. The Entrance Song and Penitential Rite have a repetitive refrain; "Come, Come Emmanuel" with solo/cantor verses appropriate for the theme of each Sunday. The Responsorial Psalm will be the "Common Psalm" of the season (Psalm 25) which is different from the "Appointed Psalm" found in the Missal. Please be sure to pick up the blue hymn sheet by the Bulletin Baskets before Mass and return it after Mass.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY – **This coming Monday, December 17, 2018, 4:00PM - 8:00PM.** Cardinal Dolan designated Monday, December 17, 2018, as Reconciliation Monday for Advent. All parishes in the archdiocese (including ours) will have priests available to hear confessions from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Advent gives us a wonderful opportunity to preach on the importance the Sacrament of Penance, and to remind our people that this Sacrament is the best way to prepare for the joy of Christmas and celebrating the birth of Our Savior.

SCHOOL RAFFLE for 55-in 4D TV - The graduating class of 2019 of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel - St. Benedicta School is raffling a brand new TV. Tickets are \$5 each. The drawing will take place on December 20th during the School Christmas Concert. Winner need not be present. A school representative will be selling tickets at the end of each mass this weekend. Fund for this raffle will go towards the 8th grade graduation trip to Mystic Connecticut. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - You are invited to take a Christmas Flower envelope and make a donation for poinsettias and decorations for our church this Christmas. The donation will act as a reminder to all of us of those who have gone home to the Eternal Lord as well as those who are unable to be with us this Christmas. The envelopes, with your intentions, will be placed on the altar for the remainder of the Advent season.

LAS POSADAS – is a traditional Hispanic advent tradition of "Pastorela" celebration where all are welcome! The Hispanic community invites us to join them beginning on Sunday, December 16th at 7:00pm in the school back cafeteria and will end on December 24th. Every night is hosted by different families or groups. We're excited to see you and look forward to your company. Las Posadas is Spanish for lodging, or accommodation, which in this case refers to the inn in the story of the nativity of Jesus. It uses the plural form as the celebration lasts for a nine-day interval (called the novena) during the Christmas season.

COLLECTIONS: December 9: \$4,595; Retired Religious: \$520; Immaculate Conception: \$400; O.L. Guadalupe: \$5,386. *Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!*

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**MAKE THE MOST OF ADVENT** - The season of Advent is designed to help us prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. Think of it: God became man, and now reigns as King of all creation. Every Christmas is a chance to welcome Jesus as an honored guest into our hearts. Think of all the planning, cooking, and cleaning needed to have a guest over. In Advent we prepare our hearts to welcome the Savior. Below are some suggestions to make the most of your Advent: **Prioritize prayer - Spend 15 minutes daily with God.** The best way to prepare to welcome the Savior at Christmas is to spend time with him. Set aside 15 minutes in your day for God and protect it. Perhaps read a chapter of Scripture, pray a decade of the Rosary, or just be still in his presence.

**Know the story.** Read through the accounts of Jesus' birth in Matthew 1:18-2:12 and/or Luke 2:1-20. Place yourself in the scene. Internalizing the Christmas story will give you a better appreciation of the season.

**Get to know the Advent saints.** One way to know God is to know his friends. There are several saints' feasts that occur this Advent, including: St. Nicholas, the Bishop of Myra (December 6), St. Juan Diego (December 9), St. Lucy (December 13), and St. John of the Cross (December 14). Adopt one of them to be your patron to pray for you, and to protect and encourage you.

**Visit the Blessed Sacrament.** The Eucharist is Jesus Christ, present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1374). All Catholic churches have a tabernacle where the Eucharist is stored. Speak with our Lord as you would a close friend.

**(Re)Discover the Mass.** At Mass, Heaven comes down to Earth. When we receive the Eucharist, Christ comes into our hearts and nourishes our souls. Aim to attend daily Mass once every week during the Christmas season.

