

December 14, 2014

Third Sunday in Advent (B)



From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

As I approach my 51st year as a priest I am looking back and evaluating the important events that shaped our history and my life. 1965 was a very good year and 1968 was a very bad year. 1969 I remember most for the landing on the moon of our astronauts- a bright moment. It felt like the beginning of a new age that would change the course of mankind. We would soon be seeing humans living in other places in the universe. It would begin on the planet Mars.

We soon found out that what seemed possible was incredibly difficult, perhaps impossible. Then last week our spaceship (actually a small rover robot) began sending back signals from Mars. People began signing up to be the first pioneers to live on Mars.

My thoughts are returning to space and its possibilities. I am fascinated by the new discoveries of science and what they might mean for religion, especially a new understanding of God. Have you noticed how many books, movies, TV shows have been created in the last few years about our future here on earth and "in the stars"? Advent is a time of darkness, a time of expectation, waiting for the star to illuminate our lives. The biblical star is a metaphor for Christ, the light of the world. I have found Christ but I am also searching for the discovery of a real star (or quark) that will unlock the mysteries of the universe.

Check out our website www.icmary.com there are many new features that you should find interesting.



COLLECTION:

The collection for last Sunday, December 7, 2014 was \$3,287.23

The second collection this Sunday December 14, 2014 will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Most elderly religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. With the ever-rising cost of healthcare and an increase in the number of those needing care, many religious communities now struggle to provide for their senior members. The *Retirement Fund for Religious* offers vital financial assistance to help meet day-to-day needs for prescription medications, nursing care and more.

The annual collection is an opportunity for each of us to give thanks to the Lord for our senior religious, and so we ask simply that you give what you can. Please join us in supporting the *Retirement Fund for Religious* and in praying for God's continued blessing on our elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

The second collection next Sunday, December 21st will be for our Church Property Insurance.

Food Collection: Thanks to your generosity in the food collection we were able to fill 24 bags of food for the needy of our community.



Third Sunday of Advent Today is often called "**Gaudete**" or "**Rejoice**" Sunday, because the entrance antiphon begins with the word "**Rejoice**" and we are halfway through Advent-so much closer to Christmas. Today's second reading also begins with the word "**Rejoice**". On this Third Sunday of Advent, what do you have to rejoice about? How are your Advent preparations for Christmas going? Let us pray today for that extra boost of Joy in this season of watchful waiting for the coming of the **Lord**.

In the first reading, God anoints a special servant. He will bring good news to the poor.

In the second reading, Peter strikes a note of joy. Christians can rejoice always as they look forward to the glorious coming of Jesus.

In the Gospel, John is identified as the one who prepares the way for Jesus. John gives testimony and bears witness to the coming of Jesus.



Advent 2014

12/14/14-**Glad Tidings**-Jesus came to bring the Good News to all, even the lonely and brokenhearted.-*Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11*

12/15/14-**A Perfect Gift**-Jesus came, not to rule this world, but to give us all the gift of eternal life.-*Matthew 21:23-27*

12/16/14-**Belief and Change** -True belief requires that we open our hearts and accept God's will.*Zep.3:1-2, 9-13*

12/17/14-**Messiah** -Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, was of the House of David and came to save us all from sin.*Matthew 1:1-17*

12/18/14-**Remember**-As we prepare for the Lord, turn your hearts to your families, your friends, and those in need.*Matthew 1:18-25*

12/19/14-**Service**-Jesus came to serve, not to be served. Become a servant as part of your Advent journey.*Luke 1:5-25*

12/20/14-**Do not Fear**-Where did the Blessed Mother find such courage? She trusted in God.*Luke 1:26-38*

Christmas Flowers:



We are taking names for the memorial which will be placed on a Christmas plaque in the rear of the church. Your donations, in memory of loved one, or for a special intention, will be placed on this plaque to be remembered by the faithful during the Holy Season. Arrangements can be made by placing your intentions and donation in the flower envelope in your December set of envelopes. Envelopes will also be in the back of the church for your use.

The flower offering helps to defray the cost of decorating our altars for Christmas.

Large Poinsettia Plants	\$50.00
Medium Poinsettia Plant	\$25.00
Small Poinsettia Plant	\$20.00

Reconciliation



Reconciliation Monday: On Monday December 15, 2014 all through the Archdiocese of New York Confessions will be heard from 4pm to 8 pm. At St. Mary's confessions will be heard in English and Spanish from 4pm-8pm, between 6pm-8pm Fr. Hattar will hear confessions in both Arabic and English, and Fr. Reyes will be hearing them in Spanish as well as English. There will also be confessions before the 12:05 Mass they will start at 11:30am they will be in both English and Spanish.

**MASS SCHEDULE
December 14, 2014-December 21, 2014**

INTENTIONS :

REQUESTED BY :

Sun.14

7:30 For the Parishioners
9:00 Joaquim David
11:00 Stephen Gebauer

Wife
Wife & Daughters

Mon. 15

8:15
12:05

Tues.16

8:15 Orlando Guiracocha
12:05

Rosa Sinchi

Wed.17

8:15
12:05 Vincent L. Siani

Bonanno Family

Thu.18

8:15 Antony Chettanil
12:05 Stephanie Mitul (L)
7:00 Guillermo Letona

George Vadkel & Family
Mitul Family
Ines Jaquez

Fri.19

8:15
12:05

Sat.20

8:15
12:05Virgil Berrelli
5:00 Louise DePierro
7:30 Rosa Peralta

Angela Berrelli
Lana Como
Rosa Sinchi

Sun.21

7:30 For the Parishioners
9:00 Nazare Manuel
11:00 Magdalena Garcia

Daughter
Daughter & Grandson

