

November 29, 2015

First Sunday of Advent

MASSES for the WEEK

"It is a holy and wholesome thing to pray for the living and the dead." (II Mac. 12:46)

Sunday, November 29, 2015

7:00 AM Santina Caccamo
Req. Grace Madison and Family
8:30 AM Catherine Carolan
Req. Karen, Daughter
10:00 AM Gary and Sandra
Req. ---
11:30 AM Edwin Mayer (10th Anniversary)
Req. Wife, Jean and Children
1:00 PM Lucille Rohde (Living)
Req. Daughters

Monday, November 30, 2015

7:00 AM Edward Williams (10th Anniversary)
Req. Daughter, Elaine Williams
8:30 AM Kenneth Pietrucha
Req. Marlene Polyak

9:30 AM Multiple Intention Mass

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

7:00 AM Josephine Yannuzzi
Req. Family
8:30 AM Vera Hayes
Req. Daughter, Maureen

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

7:00 AM Betty Snider
Req. Linda & Richard Bartush
8:30 AM Josephine Testa
Req. Father John Testa

Thursday, December 3, 2015

7:00 AM Josephine Turso
Req. Husband, Joseph
8:30 AM Josephine Turso
Req. Husband, Joseph
1:00 AM Knights of Columbus Mass
Req. For the Deceased Members

Friday, December 4, 2015

7:00 AM Thomas E. Aiosa
Req. Wife and Family
8:30 AM George "Rocky" Graziano
Req. Wife, Eileen

Saturday, December 5, 2015

7:00 AM Margaret E. Mikolajczyk
Req. Regina Egger
8:30 AM James V. McCauley (2nd Anniversary)
Req. Rosetta & James McCauley (Parents)

4:00 PM Walter Bednarek
Req. The Cook Family
5:30 PM Corrado D'Amico
Req. Family

Sunday, December 6, 2015

7:00 AM Caroline Biancola
Req. Husband, Nicholas
8:30 AM The Griffin & Enright Families
Req. Wife, Bertha Griffin and Family
10:00 AM John Trimboli
Req. Wife, Connie
11:30 AM Josephine Testa
Req. Tuesday Bingo Workers
1:00 PM Efrenita C. Pacuribot (Anniversary)
Req. Tita Romanilles

**Multiple Mass Intention
Monday at 9:30 AM
November 30, 2015**

In Memory of: Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
The Santitoro Family (*Living & Deceased*)
Rev. Frank Porazzo, & Porazzo Family
Kathleen & Anthony Jackomin
Joseph P. Flaherty
Steven Kilianski (Speedy Recovery),
Req. Grandmother
Andrew DiMaio, *Req. Wife, Susan and
Children*
Millie DelGaudio, *Req. Family*
Robert Ternes, *Req. Family*
Antonette Pawlicky, *Req. Helen Osnato*
James Burns, *Req. Wife, Doris*
Helen Dabros, *Req. Marie, In Remembrance
of Her Life*
Felicia Grace Chiodi, *Req. The Chiodi
Family*
To St. Joseph for Prayers Answered
Dorothy Murphy, *Req. Silver Ridge Park
First Aid Squad*
Tim Kosturko (Speedy Recovery).
Req. Betty Kleinfeld
Vito and Rose Melillo, *Req. Ann Bederka
Charles and Thomas Field,
Req. Mom & Wife, Florence
Katherine "Kay" Malloy,
Req. Altar Rosary Society
Dec'd. Mbrs. Breitkreutz Family,
Req. Family*

Herman Stark, *Req. Caroline
The Mennitto Family & Dec'd. Mbrs.,
Req. Jean Mayer*
Mae Annetta Pagano, *Req. Pat Lomascolo
Anthony Krake, Req. Phil, Jean, Millie
Rocky and Marlene
Anita Crowell (Good Health),
Req. Mary Stipp
Ruth Combs, Req. Jennie & Frank
McDonnell
Margaret Forte, Req. Jennie & Frank
McDonnell
Mary Beth and Tom Gannon,
Req. Mom & Dad
James Gannon (Healing), *Req. Mom & Dad
Anna Gannon, Req. Rich and Ann
John Krehel, Req. Rich and Ann
Matt & Ann Franich, Req. Linda & Chris
Leon Waleryn, Req. Wife, Olga
Father Michael Guba (Speedy Recovery),
Req. Felicitas M. Villaluz
Albert & Sophia DeFelice, Req. Wife and
Mom, Angela
Phyllis Gubitosi, Req. Jim Ferrity and
Luda
Valerie O'Leary, Req. Judy and Stan
Rafalko
Rachel Brown, Req. Alice Petroccione,
Sister
Anthony Pluchino, Req. The Trombino
Family**

SPECIAL INTENTIONS – WEEK of November 28 to December 4, 2015

Bread & Wine – Chapel
Trudy Daidone, Req. Husband, Gene

Sanctuary Candles- Church
Healing for the Smith Family,
Req. Margaret Smith

Sanctuary Candles- Chapel
Pat Grieco, Req. Wife, Gloria

Altar Candles – Church
Rev. Francis E. Santitoro & Marie Santitoro, Sister,
Req. Andre and Ann Santitoro -Vispetti

Altar Candles- Chapel
Marie Pagano & Son, William,
Req. Dom and Terry Pagano

PARISH NEWS

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

On December 16th we will have a luncheon at (The Grove, formerly The Legend Lounge) in Toms River at 12:30 p.m. The tickets are \$25.00 per person and may be obtained by calling: Jean Hanna (732) 473-9755

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THE GIVING TREE

The Altar Rosary Society, The Legion of Mary and the Columbiettes Auxiliary are sponsoring a "Giving Tree" from the Catholic Charities Organization called "Project Reach." The tree is located in the vestibule of the Church.

Take a tag off this special Christmas Tree and buy the item on the tag. Please do not wrap your gift. The items bought will benefit 55+ abused senior women who are in need in Ocean County. The deadline for gifts is Sunday, December 6th.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Holy Name Society will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd at 12:30 p.m., when we will have a Sandwich Party. The cost is \$3.00 per person call:

Bob Colello (732) 818-9270

LEGION OF MARY

Our meetings take place on Mondays from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM.

The Legion of Mary is pleased to offer a weekly visitation of the Blessed Mother's statue to homes within the Parish community.

If you are sick or homebound and would like to say the Rosary with someone, kindly call:

Jean Hanna (732) 473-9755

BAKE SALE

Thank you all for contributing to our Bake Sale. The Bakers, the Volunteers and of course the buyers of our delicious cakes.

Our Bake Sale was the best ever... We netted \$1,775 in sales.

May I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Pat Berg (732) 350-2782

PARISH NEWS

ATLANTIC CITY TRIP TO RESORTS

Date: December 7, 2015

Cost: \$23.00 Coins: \$25.00

Tickets are sold by the Parish Auditorium on Tuesdays from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. or call: Mr. Sandy Monda (732) 349-0143

The bus leaves for Atlantic City from St. Maximilian Kolbe Church promptly at 9:15 A.M.

Note: All Cancellations are non-refundable.

ADORATION

The Adoration devotion is to join the Holy Father in praying for the unborn and for the special intentions of our families. The Adoration is held every Friday from:

12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM

LOCAL CHURCHES

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICES

St. Barnabas Church December 14th 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Church December 15th 7:00 p.m.

St. Maximilian Kolbe Church

Wednesday, December 16th

12:00 Noon to 1:30 p.m.

St. Justin's Church December 18th 7:00 p.m.

St. Luke's Church December 21st 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION

We commonly refer to Advent as a time of preparation. One thing is indispensable for successful Christmas preparations which is Penance.

Consider the encouraging words that Jesus addresses to us:

"Reform your lives! The kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4: 17)

In the sacrament of penance, God provides us with a forum in which we can encounter Jesus Christ Himself. Through the priest, Christ in turn finds the opportunity to speak words of consolation to us who hear his call to reform our lives.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers us the chance to prepare ourselves to welcome the Child of Bethlehem.

Romanus Cessario, O.P.

BINGO...BINGO... BINGO

Bingo is held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the Parish Hall auditorium. Doors open at 10:00A.M. and the games begin at 12:00 Noon. Food is also available for purchase.

On Tuesday, December 8th, the Immaculate Conception Bingo will not be held.

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ARTS & CRAFTS

The group is continuing to meet on Mondays, from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Come join us and bring some of your ideas.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

The weekly devotions of Bread and Wine; Altar Candles, Sanctuary Candles and Flowers are available for 2016 for the Church and Chapel.

Stop by the Parish Office during our business hours to request your special week.

COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend if for Parish Development and Maintenance.

Father Max's Smile Corner

Dudley's Uncle Dismo, told the sheriff, "Speeders are killing my chickens. Do something." The next day workers erected a sign near Uncle Dismo property reading, "Slow, School Crossing." That too didn't help.

So the sheriff sent out workers with a new sign saying, "Slow, Children at Play." Again, Uncle Dismo complained that this sign was not working and asked the sheriff, "May I make my own sign?" The sheriff agreed and three weeks later he called to see how Uncle Dismo's new sign was working out.

Uncle Dismo said, "Great, not one chicken has been killed since I put the sign up. He told the sheriff "The new sign reads, "Nudist Colony, go slow and watch out for chicks."

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THE HOUSE CHURCH

For about the first 300 years, Christians did not have churches. They gathered in homes. There, they came together for instruction, celebration baptism and broke bread and read the Eucharist.

Larger homes were chosen as gathering places, with a dining room that could accommodate a fair sized group. These would also have a fountain with a small pool for Baptism and a courtyard for teachings and discussion.

When the Peace of Constantine "legalized" Christianity in the fourth century, membership increased. This created a need to construct and/or take over large buildings which became the first permanent "churches."

But early Christians never lost the sense of the "house church." They prayed in their own homes, had religious symbols there, and in some places it was a custom to bring home a portion of the Eucharistic Bread so that they could partake of it each day during the week...their "daily bread."

Bishop Ken Untener

PARISH COOKBOOKS

The Parish Cookbooks, called "Heavenly Delights" which you helped write, are now available for \$15.00 per book. They make great stocking stuffers for the holidays.

Cookbooks will go on sale Tuesdays and Thursday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon in front of the Bingo Hall starting December 1st (every Tuesday and Thursday) through the month of December..

Then cookbooks will be available for sale after the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturdays and after the 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM Masses starting Sundays, December 5th, and 6th through the month of December. .

This is a fundraiser for our own church. Please help in this great cause and get a great Cookbook that all can enjoy.

The Cookbook Committee

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

May the wisdom of the saints inspire us in our daily lives.

November 29 St. Saturninus of Toulouse

November 30 St. Andrew, Apostle

December 1 St. Edmund Champion

December 2 St. Bernard of Parma, Bishop

December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

December 4 St. John Damascene, Priest

December 4 St. Barbara

December 5 St. Gerald, Bishop

RELIGIOUS PRESENCE

An interesting phenomenon takes place in homes at Christmas. There is no other time of the year when it is so natural to have a "religious presence" in our house.

+ The Christmas tree itself is a religious symbol. Its origins are rooted in the "tree of life" in the Garden of Eden. Often we place the star of the Magi or an angel at the top of the tree.

+ At Christmas we have a manger scene with the child Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi and angels.

+ Candles—closely associated with religious are a popular Christmas decoration in the home.

+ We listen to religious music in our homes, Christmas carols with religious themes.

+ A prayer is usually said before the Christmas meal, even in homes where this is seldom done during the year.

Since Vatican II we have renovated our churches to enhance the religious symbols there. We have a tradition of religious symbols in the home, the cross, a family Bible, art works and even palm branches, (which might be faded a little).

The Christmas season is a good time to take a second look at having year round religious symbols in our home.

Advent and Christmas Seasons
The little Blue Book—2011

THINK ABOUT THIS.....

There are times when we read the papers, watch the news, think of all the problems on this planet called Earth, We shake our heads, and wonder to ourselves...."Who would want to bring a child into this world?" *Answer: God would!*

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

As Advent begins, we are reminded of the three comings of Christ;

His coming into human history at Bethlehem;

His coming at the end of human history;

His coming into our hearts.

We hear about events that will take place at the end of time, but that it should serve to awaken us to the here and now of Christ in our world.

St. Paul says, "we must conduct ourselves in a way pleasing to God." Let us prepare ourselves this day and all of Advent to welcome the Lord into our hearts and home.

Community of Faith

CHRIST THE KING

Lord Jesus,

In the Old Testament, the people asked the prophet Samuel for an earthly king, like the other nations. They were warned that they should have no king but God since no one could equal His justice and mercy.

When you were scourged and beaten, those whom you had come to save rejected you again saying, "We have no king but Caesar."

Today, we honor You as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We recall that You are not only the perfect ruler, but give perfect justice to all.

You gave perfect mercy to Your people for You were not only willing to live for us but gave Your own life for those in Your care that we might live eternally with You.

Liturgical Publication

"We spend so much time yearning for that special item that will finally make us happy, that we don't take the time to look around and discover that we already are."

Anonymous

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The Life of Jesus

Matthew 19: 3-26; Mark 10: 2-27; Luke 18: 1-27

LESSONS IN PRAYER

To teach His disciples to pray persistently and confidently, Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a judge in a certain town who did not fear God and did not respect man. Now there was a certain widow in that town and she kept coming to him saying, 'Do me justice against my adversary.' And he would not for a long time.

But, afterwards he said within himself, 'Although I do not fear God, nor even respect man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will do her justice, lest by her continual coming she finally wear me out.'

Hear what the unjust judge says, and will not God avenge His elect, who cry to Him day and night? Will He be slow to act in their case? I tell you that He will avenge them quickly. Yet when the Son of Man comes, will He find, do you thing, faith on the earth?"

In behalf of humility and against self-righteousness, He told another parable:

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: 'O God I thank Thee that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, oreven like this publican.

I fast twice a week, I pay tithes of all that I possess.' The publican standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast saying, 'O God be merciful to me a sinner!'

'I tell you, this man went back to his home justified rather than the other, for every-one who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted.'

Some Pharisees came up and sought to trap Him by asking whether it was lawful for a man to repudiate his wife. Jesus answered:

"Have you not read that the Creator, from the beginning made them male and female and said, 'For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife and the two shall become one flesh?' Therefore now they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let no man put asunder."

They then asked Him why, if this were so. Moses had provided for a wife being dismissed through a written notice. Jesus replied:

"Because Moses, by reason of the hardness of your heart, permitted you to put away your wives, but it was not so from the beginning. I say to thee, that whoever puts away his wife, except for immortality, and marries another, commits adultery; and he who marries a woman who has been put away commits adultery."

As Jesus was speaking some little children had been brought forward for Him to bless them. The disciples began to rebuke the children and their escorts. Jesus said indignantly:

"Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them for such is the kingdom of God. Amen I say to thee, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God as a little child will not enter it.

The Life of Christ
Catholic Press

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Occasionally in this space will appear a short article covering the lives of the saints, especially with reference to those saints whose likeness appear on the stained glass windows in the church and chapel, or whose statue is present in the chapel area or the candle room area.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

Patron of Missions

Francis Xavier was born in Spain of a noble family. He was the youngest of six children. Francis was tutored at home and then at the age of eighteen, studies at the University of Paris.

It was at the University where he met Saint Ignatius of Loyola, a retired soldier who was also a student. At first, Francis did not like him, but St. Ignatius saw in him his ability for leadership, his ambition to become a good athlete as well as his generosity towards others.

Francis gradually saw that his energy and talent could be used to teach people about God's love. Finally, with five other men, he joined Ignatius who started the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). It was then that Francis decided to become a priest.

St. Ignatius assigned Francis to India. On the five month journey across the ocean Francis was constantly seasick. When he finally arrived in India, Francis began to learn the language in order to teach the children of India about Jesus. He taught the children first, the sick, the overworked and then the prisoners. He converted thousands of people. From India, Francis traveled to Malaysia and then to Japan.

Francis' dream was to reach China where he could tell people the Good News of Jesus Christ. After ten years of hard missionary work, Francis set sail for China. He became quite ill while on board and the sailors left him alone on a foreign shore. A poor fisherman took him to his hut, where Francis died on Friday, December 2nd. at the age of forty six.

Francis Xavier was buried in this desolate land far from any other Jesuit priests. He was called the Apostle of the Indies.

St. Francis pray that we have the heart of missionaries!

SAINT ANDREW

Patron of Fishermen, Sailors, Russia, Scotland

Andrew lived during the first century. A fisherman by trade, he was a disciple of John the Baptist until the day Jesus was baptized. Andrew learned from John that Jesus was the true Messiah.

Andrew followed Jesus home and stayed there for hours. Amazed by all he saw and heard he urged his brother Simon (whom Jesus called Peter) to meet Jesus. Soon they were both believers.

His brother Simon and Andrew maintained their fishing business until the day Jesus said, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1: 17) At once they abandoned their home and family to travel with Jesus, marveling at His wisdom and lessons. They also managed the ever present multitude of people who pursued Jesus, expecting to witness a miracle.

One day 5,000 people followed Jesus to a mountaintop. As dinnertime neared, Jesus asked His disciples to feed the crowd. Andrew said, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what good are these for so many?" (John 6: 9) Jesus had the crowd sit and began to distribute the loaves and fish, which miraculously multiplied. When everyone finished the disciples needed 12 baskets to hold the leftovers.

After the Resurrection of Jesus, Andrew became a missionary establishing Christianity in Asia Minor and Greece. Jesus had warned the Apostles that preaching His Gospel would create enemies. Andrew was eventually martyred in Greece and tied to an X shaped cross so he would suffer longer.

Legend says his desire to introduce the world to Jesus was so great that he preached to the crowds for two days while hanging on the cross.

Our Faith

MARY IS EVERYONE'S MOTHER

By: Father Charles Shelby,

Ever since Jesus on the cross said to the beloved disciple, "*Behold your mother,*" we have all had a claim on the Blessed Mary as our mother. Devout Catholics have taken advantage of this situation by lavishing on Mary many different titles related to her motherhood.

Mother of the Savior

This title of Mary brings us back to Christmas, the birthday of Jesus. Those gospel stories present Mary to us as both Virgin and Mother, two very different symbols in the same person.

A mother is someone who cares and nurtures giving the world a person who can answer God's call to make the world a better place.

Mother of Reconciliation

God does not abandon sinners. One way He reaches out to them is through Mary's motherly love. Touched by our Lady's compassion, someone who has wandered from God can overcome fear and shame to receive forgiveness.

Mother of the Church

Mary's title came into prominence at Vatican Council II. In 1965 Pope Paul VI, during the celebration of Mass, declared our Lady "Mother of the Church," that is, of the entire Christian people both the faithful and their pastors, who call her their most loving Mother.

Mother of Divine Hope

We speak of Mary in connection with hope often. The Second Vatican Council says that Mary is "a sign of hope and comfort for the people on their pilgrim way."

In the Hail Holy Queen, we call Mary "our life, our sweetness, and our hope."

Since her Son is our hope of life and salvation, Mary is the Mother of Hope.

Mother of Unity

Since Christ prayed that "all may be one," we look to Mary as an intercessor for unity. As mother of us all, she brings us into unity in her family. As spouse of the Holy Spirit, Mary has much to offer to the ecumenical movement.

Mother of Mercy

In the Hail Holy Queen, we address Mary as "Mother of Mercy." We always think of Mary as gracious and compassionate, both qualities of mercy.

Tradition says that Saint Odo, the Avvot of Cluny first gave the title to our Lady. Saint Lawrence of Brindisi describes Mary in terms that describe her mercy, "the most merciful, the most compassionate mother, the most tender mother and the most loving mother."

Mother of Consolation

In the beatitudes, Jesus taught, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled."

We can look to Mary for consolation as we picture her receiving the body of Jesus from the cross. When we think of Mary's message to Saint Catherine Laboure' and of her other appearances, we see Mary giving consolation to her children in their times of trial and distress.

We ourselves can expect to receive consolation through her.

Mother of Grace

In 1921 Pope Benedict XV gave the Church a Mass and office in honor of Mary. The Vatican Council II treated this title at length, explaining the meaning and force of her mediation.

In prayerful reflection, the Church associates Mary's mediation with her motherhood.

The Blessed Mother Mary is a model of the Church at prayer.

The Association of the Miraculous Medal
1998

Father Charles Shelby, C.M.