

December 6, 2015

Second 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, December 6, 2015

7:00 AM Caroline Biancola
Req. Husband, Nicholas
8:30 AM The Griffin & Enright Families
Req. 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

Monday, December 7, 2015

7:00 AM Charles Darrar
Req. Mr. & Mrs. Harry Eliopoulos
8:30 AM Joseph & Mary Garrity
Req. Teresa Garrity and Family
9:30 AM Multiple Intention Mass

4:00 PM All Parishioners Living & Deceased
5:30 PM All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

The Immaculate Conception

7:00 AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased
8:30 AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased
10:00 AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased
11:30 AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

7:00 AM Walter Wardenski, Sr.
Req. Wife, Marge
8:30 AM Tobias, Arcangela Rose Raguso
Req. Irene and Nick Raguso

Thursday, December 10, 2015

7:00 AM Charles Darrar
Req. Frank Cundari
8:30 AM Charles Bohan (Birthday)
Req. Wife, Doris

Friday, December 11, 2015

7:00 AM Mary Pagano
Req. Family
8:30 AM Leonard Ruppi
Req. Wife, Angela

Saturday, December 12, 2015

7:00 AM Regina Buklarewicz
Req. Joan Buklarewicz
8:30 AM Virginia DeGeorge
Req. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Boud

4:00 PM Robert Berg
Req. Friend, Estelle
5:30 PM Joseph Bennett (13th Anniversary)
Req. Wife, Mary and Children

Sunday, December 13, 2015

7:00 AM Anna Pszonak
Req. Ted Pszonak
8:30 AM Edmund J. Polakowski
Req. John and Rosalie Decker
10:00 AM Lucy Fay (11th Anniversary)
Req. Husband, Mike
11:30 AM Vincent and Sadie Obiso
Req. Family
1:00 PM The Dyer and Walsh Families
Req. Teresa Dyer

**Multiple Mass Intention
Monday at 9:30 AM
December 7, 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
Dean W. Peterson, *Req. Wife,*
Gertrude
William & Loretta Derby, *Req. Family*
Sylvester Tyszkiewicz, *Req. Wife,*
Alicia and Sons
The Modeshefsky & Caverly Families,
Req. Mary Modeshefsky
Frank Passarello, *Req. Wife, Ann*
Harry Kent, *Req. Wife, Catherine*
David & Mary Nolte, *Req. Gloria*
Del Lupo
Mary Pecklers, *Req. Betty Kleinfeld*
Jean Wist, *Req. Husband,*
Gus
Felicia Grace Chiodi, *Req. The Chiodi*
Family
James Cucco, *Req. Wife, Ada*
Silvio Forte, *Req. Cousin, Jennie and*
Children
Anthony D., Anthony R., & Josephine Iacullo
Req. Anne Iacullo
Dorothy Murphy, *Req. Peggy Merlino*

Alphonse & Julia Dandrea, *Req. Ann*
Bederka
Gloria & George Machler,
Req. Ann Bederka
All Armed Forces Living and Deceased,
Req. Ann Bederka
James Sheridan, *Req. Wife*
Katherine "Kay" Malloy,
Req. Lillian Stefanic
Frank Irilli, *Req. Family*
Alfred Smith, *Req. George Churpakovich*
Enrica Cera (1st Anniversary),
Req. Mr. & Mrs. Philip Maddamma
John Kirshman, *Req. Agnes McCaffrey*
Patrick Fitzsimmons, *Req. Pat Guerin*
Valerie O'Leary, *Req. Kathleen*
Hartmann
Douglas DeFeis, *Req. Bernice & Jack*
Ramezzana
Andrew Giglio, *Req. Jerry & Rose*
Del Gaudio
Thomas Forado, *Req. The Aubry Family*
Sophie B. and Helen Z., *Req. Lilly*
O'Keeffe
Olga Syre, *Req. Helen and Larry*
Mario DiLullo, *Req. Elizabeth Mangini*
Rose E. Zullo, *Req. Elaine Saja*
Ronald A. Richards, *Req. Mom & Dad*

*Pray for all the sick and deceased parishioners
of our parish.*

SPECIAL INTENTIONS – WEEK of December 5, 2015 December 11, 2015

Bread & Wine – Church
John Bambara, *Req. Family*

Bread & Wine – Chapel
Edmund P. Dravis, *Req. Bob & Rosemarie*
Durner

Altar Candles – Church
Palma Certo, *Req. Ann & Angie Abbruzzesse*

Altar Candles – Chapel
Sally Horney, *Req. Margaret, Sister*

Sanctuary Candles – Church
Gerard Headlund, *Req. Gloria Grieco*

Sanctuary Candles – Chapel
Rev. Francis E. Santitoro & Marie Santitoro, *Sister,*
Req. Andre and Ann Santitoro -Vispetti

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. At our Christmas Luncheon please bring a small gift valued at \$10.00. 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 this Sunday, December 6th.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Holy Name Society will be held on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. May you have a Merry Christmas!

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

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

1. What does Advent mean?
2. What two Christmas characters are not mentioned in "The Night Before Christmas?"
3. What was Frosty the Snowman's nose made of?
4. Who was the first American President to have a Christmas Tree in the White House?
5. What were Frosty the Snowman's last words?
6. What Country created eggnog?

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

THE ADORATION WILL NOT BE HELD ON FRIDAY, December 25th.

LOCAL CHURCHES

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICES

St. Barnabas Church

Monday, December 14th 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Church

Tuesday, 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

Friday, December 18th 7:00 p.m.

St. Luke's Church

Monday, December 21st 7:00 p. m.

OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY

All beliefs about our Blessed Mother lead to Jesus Christ. God kept her free from original sin for the sake of Jesus that she might give herself wholeheartedly to His life and work.

The Marian privileges of the Immaculate Conception enrich the self-understanding of the Church for she is the "most excellent fruit of the redemption and the spotless mode of the Church."

The Immaculate Conception

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.

Mark Your Calendars:

Bingo will be cancelled on: December 22nd, December 24th, December 29th, December 31st. Bingo will start again on January 5, 2016

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.

ENVELOPE COLLECTION

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

DEDICATION TO MARY

By St. Bernhard

- When you follow her...
you will not go astray.
- When you pray to her...
you will not despair.
- When you think of her...
you will never err.
- When she holds you up...
you will not fall.
- When she protects you...
you will not fear.
- When she leads you...
you will not be fatigued.
- When she favors you...
you will arrive safely.

*"Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls."
Mother Teresa*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

In the passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger and unfit to "stoop and untie His sandal straps." John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he who walks among them.

Although Advent is a time of anticipation and waiting for our preparedness of great importance. Four short weeks allow us to focus on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the power which comes into our lives.

Are we serious about Advent? Do we need that power today? Do I speak of my spiritual preparation and not just shopping for gifts?

The gift of the Spirit of Jesus is the reason for Advent.

THE OPLATEK CHRISTMAS WAFER

Practice the ancient custom of sharing the Christmas Wafer with your family and friends.

Many years ago the children awaited for the first star the "Baby" born in Bethlehem the true bread of life. Oplatek is Latin from the word Oblatum meaning Holy Bread.

Stop by the Parish Office Monday through Friday to purchase your Oplatek Wafers, (9:00 am to 3:00 pm).

PARISHIONERS

If you are a registered parishioner and have not received your 2016 collection envelopes kindly call the parish office.

(732) 914-0300

Please do not use the new collection envelopes until January 2016.

THE BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

A Thank You, to all the grief ministers who volunteered in helping with the six week support group that has just been completed.

Our heart warming wishes to all the bereaved parishioners who participated in our support group.

*Madeline Gardner, RN
Bereavement Coordinator*

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

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

- December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop
- December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop
- December 8 The Immaculate Conception
- December 9 St. Peter Fourier, Priest
- December 10 St. Romaric, Abbot
- December 11 St. Damasus I, Pope
- December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 12 St. Jane Frances de Chantal

Did You Know????

In 1963 the White House Christmas Tree was not lit until December 22nd after a thirty day mourning period for our deceased American President John F. Kennedy.

REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR

Pearl Harbor was a major United States naval base in Hawaii. Without warning, Pear Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941 by the Japanese Air Force causing a great loss of American lives and ships.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt described the day of the attack as a "date which would live in infamy" and Congress declared war upon Japan the very next day.

Let us always remember in prayer our American men and women stationed in the military service that have sacrificed their lives for our beautiful and free Country.

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

+ The Advent wreath originated in Eastern Germany and fruitcakes date back to the Romans.

+ The manger and Christmas carols are both attributed to St. Francis of Assisi after he created the First Nativity scene in 1223.

+ Christmas trees originated in Germany and the word Xmas is a Greek abbreviation (Xristos- Christ).

+ Christmas cards began as a kind of stationery produced by Sir Henry Cole of the British Postal Service.

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

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Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father, brothers all are we.

Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with Me...

PARISH COOKBOOKS

The parish cookbooks called "Heavenly Delights," which you helped write, are now available for \$15.00 per book.

During the month of December, "Heavenly Delights" are available for purchase after the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and after the 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Sundays throughout December.

Then, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in front of the Bingo Hall.

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

The Cookbook Committee

NOVEMBER RAFFLE RESULTS

- 1st Prize 004327 Amount: \$368.00
- 2nd Prize 001215 Amount: \$221.00
- 3rd Prize 003265 Amount: \$147.00

Congratulations to all our winners!

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

In this joyous season why not celebrate your marriage and its many blessings by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend?

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will be held on: January 15 to 17, 2016.

Early registration is advisable as space is limited. For registration and Information call: (732) 904-9636 (or)

www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org

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The Life of Jesus

Matthew 18: 21-35

A PARABLE OF MERCY

Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how often shall my brothers sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered:

"I do not say to thee seven times, but seventy times seven."

Jesus related the parable of the Unmerciful Servant, illustrating the need of forgiving our fellowmen.

"This is why the kingdom of heaven is likened to a king who desired to settle accounts with his servants. When he had begun the settlement, one was brought to him who owned him ten thousand talents. As he had no means of paying, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

The servant fell down and besought him saying, 'Have patience with me and I will pay thee all!' Moved with compassion, the master of the servant released him and forgave him the debt.

As the servant went out, he met one of his fellow servant who owed him a hundred denarii, and he laid hold of him and throttled him, saying, 'Pay what thou owed.' His fellow servant therefore fell down and began to entreat him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will pat thee all.' But went away and cast him into prison until he should pay what was due.

His fellow servant therefore, seeing what had happened were very much saddened and they went and informed their master.

The master called him and said to him, 'Wicked servant! I forgave thee all the debt, because thou didn't entreat me. Should you not also have had pity on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?'

His master, being angry, handed him over to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So also My heavenly Father will do to you, if you do not each forgive your brothers from your hearts."

SUMMARY

Peter thought he was being generous in suggesting "seven" as the number of times he should forgive offenses against him for "seven" was commonly used to indicate a considerable number.

Jesus replied "Seventy times seven," represents an infinitely greater number. Christ's answer to Peter is meant for us also for the measure of forgiveness is inexhaustible.

The Life of Christ
Catholic Press

BE THANKFUL TO GOD

Being thankful is like an analogy of talks being given a dish of sand and being told there were particles of iron in it. We could look for the iron by sifting our clumsy fingers through the sand, but we wouldn't find much. However, if we took a magnet and pulled it through the sand, it would draw the almost invisible iron particles.

The unthankful heart, like the clumsy fingers, discovers no mercies, but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so will the thankful heart find heavenly blessings every time.

Thank God for all the good things!

"Daily Splashes of Joy"

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.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Patroness of America & Protector of the Unborn

A sign from God is called a miracle. One of Juan Diego's sign is probably the most famous in our part of the world.

Juan Diego was an Aztec Indian living in central Mexico around the year 1500. It was a time when missionaries from Spain were arriving in the New World to bring the Good News of our faith to the Indians.

In the year 1531 the Blessed Mother Mary chose to appear to Juan. She gave him a miraculous sign which he took to the Bishop as proof of her appearance to him. Juan told him that when he opened his cloak roses fell out. It was a time in December that was not a warm season for roses. More miraculous was that of the Blessed Mother's image upon his cloak.

The image is presently shown on display in Mexico City known as Our Lady of Guadalupe. This miracle has led millions of Indians across Central America to be baptized in the Catholic Faith.

Saint Juan Diego was canonized by Pope John Paul II.

"Our Lady of Guadalupe intercede with the Lord that He may instill a hunger for holiness to all the people of God."

Pope John Paul II

"I invoke the maternal protection of Our Lady of Guadalupe so that she may protect and inspire those who govern in their difficult task.

As promoters of the common good and the renewal of bonds of Christian fellowship; for the good of all the people."

Pope Benedict XVI

ST. AMBROSE

Patron of Candle Makers

Ambrose was born in Gaul, received a good education and became a great poet and famous speaker. He was appointed the governor of Milan, Italy, a priest and then Bishop of Milan.

Ambrose gave away his riches to the Church and the poor. He upheld moral laws for everyone including emperors. However, the emperor's mother at that time, was afraid that Ambrose was more popular than her son. The emperor supported a heretic named Arius who taught that Jesus Christ was not God and ordered Ambrose to give up the church and its teachings. When Ambrose stood firm in his beliefs he was dealt with much upheaval in his life.

At the age of fifty-seven years old Ambrose died after suffering an illness. He wrote about Baptisms, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Ambrose was versed in the Holy Scriptures..

ST. PETER FOURIER

At the age of twenty-four, Peter became a Canon Regular in the Augustinian Abbey in France and was also a professor of theology.

Peter knew the Summa of Saint Thomas Aquinas by hear. In the year 1597 he was made a parish priest at Mattaincourt, a district threatened by heresy. When a parishioner was in real difficulty with finances, Peter started a fund called Saint Evre's Purse. The people that were helped did not have to pay him back, only if their life for them improved.

Peter founded the Congregation of Notre Dame for women which flourished in the United States and Canada The last four years of his life was spent in exile and he served as Chaplain of a convent. Peter Fourier was canonized in 1857.

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Our Faith

SAINT NICHOLAS

Patron of Children, Bakers & Pawnbrokers

The feast of Saint Nicholas has been celebrated on December 6th since the fifth century.

Legend tells us that he was the only child of a wealthy family, was orphaned as a young boy, grew up in a monastery and became a priest. He was a kind and generous man to poor families, widows and especially children.

Wishing to aid people anonymously, he would drop bags of gold down the chimneys of the homes of people in need. He would also throw gold coins through windows where the coins landed in stockings hanging by the fireplace.

Stories of his generosity soon encouraged other people to give gifts at this time of year. In the sixteenth century, some reformers felt Nicholas was too closely tied to the Catholic Church. Different countries or regions developed their own gift-giver. In France, Nicholas was known as Pere Noel, in England, he was Father Christmas, and the Dutch called Nicholas, Sinter Klass. When the early Dutch settlers came to the United States he became known as Santa Claus.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas season is not a time of mixed joy for there is also sadness and pain. It might be lonely for those who have just lost someone they loved. For others, it is always a lonely time.

This Christmas season sends us deep within our soul, a mixture of happy and sad thoughts. We are celebrating the Birth of the One who suffered, died and rose from the dead to open the door of life for us.

This is what Jesus came to do..... This is what He still does.

"From the earliest days of Christianity, the faithful have worshipped together, played together, and pulled together in times of crisis. They have kept Christ at the center of their encounters and have known what it means to feel His presence in their lives."

Liturgical Publications

THE BUSIEST TIME OF YEAR

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At this time of year, something gets in us and we begin thinking we have got to find ways to make this year's Christmas bigger than last year. Whatever surprise gift we pulled off last year, this year it must be bigger and better than ever. If that is the race we are caught in, we have got to get off the track and instead of thinking bigger and better....think differently.

The point is to enjoy the feast of Christmas not to take the fun out of it. This is a wonderful time of year and one that is dear to us, for it is rich in memories and customs.

Remember, we are celebrating how happy we are to receive the Christ Child.

Christmas Trivia (Answers from Page 4)

1. Advent- Coming
2. Santa Claus and Rudolph
3. Button Nose
4. President Franklin Pierce (14th President)
5. "I'll be back another day."
6. England... originally it was mixed with brandy or sherry. In the U.S. rum was used because it was not taxed as high as brandy.

Father Max's Christmas Corner

Christmas is that time when everyone gets all Santamental.

At Christmas time the best holiday decorations is to be wreathed in smiles.

God gave us memories so we could have roses in December.