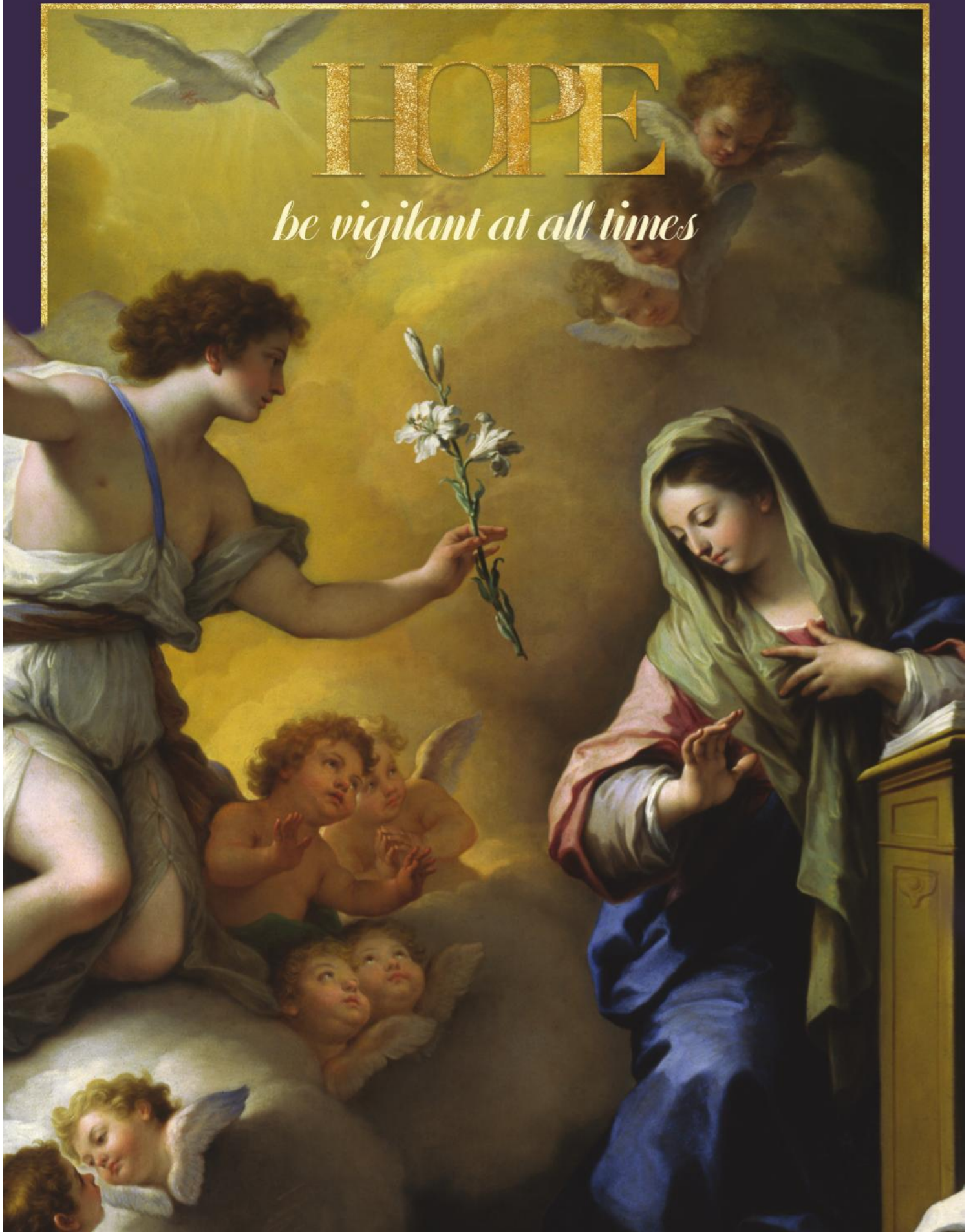


HOPE

be vigilant at all times



Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

91 Maple Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

973-539-2141, Fax-973-984-0632

Visit our Website: www.assumptionparish.org

Email: assumption@assumptionparish.org

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. John E. Hart

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lukasz Wnuk

In Residence: Rev. Przemyslaw Gawlik

Deacons: Brian Beyerl, Michael Hanly, John Mihalko, Elliott Stein

Trustees: Kathleen Hyland 973-539-2860 / Bob Rohr 973-539-2693

Parish Coordinator—Linda Macios

Secretary—Liz Rotunno

Business Manager—Robyn Morris

Parish Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8:30—4 p.m. Friday 8:30—3 p.m.

Parish Registration: Call 973-539-2141 or visit the parish website at www.assumptionparish.org.

Assumption School: 973-538-0590; www.assumptionnj.org
Sr. Merris Larkin, S.C. Principal

Faith Formation: 973-267-5638,
Email: RelEd@assumptionparish.org

Linda Macios: Director
Sharon Bertram: Coordinator Grades 6, 7, and 8
Clare Ettensohn: Confirmation—973-267-8519
Tara Speer: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Sue Paradise: Secretary

The Faith Formation traditional program for kindergarten through 8th grade will meet virtually for 2020-2021. Second grade sacramental prep will have a blended model, face-to-face and virtual. Confirmation prep will also have a blended model. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd classes will meet September–April on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and will adhere to all state guidelines and regulations.

Music Ministry—973-539-2141, extension 19
Claudia Nardi: Director, Dr. Fran Covalessky, Organist
Adult Choir, Youth Ministry Choir, Children's Choir

Holy Rood Cemetery—973-539-7501
Website: www.holyroodcemeterynj.com

Diana Loughman: Cemetery Director
Emerson Brito, Emerson Pavezzi: Caretakers

Church Sexton—Doug Reisch

Deaf Interpreter - Kathleen Skaf

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

During Covid, confessions are heard by appointment only.

Marriage: Arrangements should be made with a priest or deacon by registered parishioners **at least one year in advance** of the marriage date. Marriage arrangements should be made PRIOR to reserving reception facility.

Baptisms: Contact Liz Rotunno in the Parish Office to arrange your child's Baptism. For first-time parents, attendance at a Baptismal Preparation class is required. Prep classes are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Visitation of the Sick and Elderly: Please keep us informed so that we may be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital. Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion on Sundays.

Parish Ministries

Africa Surgery	Tom Johnson	973-292-3320
Altar Linens	Mike Cherello	973-267-6825
Altar Servers	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Bereavement	Michele Cameron	973-769-9634
Bethany Ministry	Linda Macios	973-539-2141
Boy Scouts	Kevin Kelly	973-727-7082
Cub Scouts	Cassandra Nielsen	973-452-3857
Centering Prayer	Fr. Ken Lasch	973-538-2653
Children's Worship	Linda Cannilla	973-540-1683
CYO Basketball	Kevin Bopp	917-861-2876
Endowment for Poor	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Eucharistic Min.	Marybeth Wooters	973-538-6784
Family Promise	Brian Doherty	973-714-7674
Finance Committee	Greg Kurlander	973- 984-9516
Food Pantry	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Gardening	Fr. Lukasz Wnuk	973-539-2141
Giving Tree	Brian Morgan	973-462-6972
Good Samaritan	Jeanette Fredericks	973-267-7152
Home School Assoc.	Jean Jabbour	973-809-8630
Holistic Health	Michele Cameron	973-769-9634
Homeless Solutions	Ralph Ferrara	973-769-6418
Knights of Columbus	William C. Duggan, Jr.	973-960-6417
Lectors	Andrea Bozzi	973-656-9864
Men's Group	Peter Zarembo	215-518-4973
Nursing Homes	Mary Dibble	973- 998-0838
Pre-Cana	Ken and Rosa Rose	973-539-9845
RCIA	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Respect Life	Sue and	
	Dave O'Dougherty	973-993-3068
Safe Environment	Linda Macios	973-539-2141
Senior Citizens	Janet Dedrick	973-539-7811
Separation / Divorce	Deacon Elliott Stein	973-539-2141
Soup Kitchen	Annaliese Rush	973-455-0391
Spiritual Direction	Karen Florance	973-476-5542
Ushers	Anthony Romano	973-267-5433
Village Angels/Tanzania	Johanna Burani	973-610-4856
Welcome /Hospitality	Maira Clarkin	973-539-4390
Women's Cornerstone	Chrissy West	973-809-1646
Vocations	Fr. John Brandi	973-539-2141
Young Professionals	Fr. Lukasz Wnuk	973-539-2141
Youth Ministry	Clare Ettensohn	973-267-8519

MASS INTENTIONS	
November 28	
8:00 a.m.	Margaret and Joseph Gartland
5:30 p.m.	Carmela Suozzi Susan Barbier
SUNDAY	November 29
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:00 a.m.	Joan Kramer Marie Kuchera
10:00 a.m.	Paul Murphy Steven Kelly
12:15 p.m.	Julia and John Hose Richard Cullen
5:30 p.m.	Helen Ellermeyer Bruno Moschetta
MONDAY	November 30
7:00 a.m.	Sheila Murphy
12:05 a.m.	Charles and Jeanne Seergy
TUESDAY	December 1
7:00 a.m.	Joan Kramer
12:05 p.m.	Juan S. Floriano
WEDNESDAY	December 2
7:00 a.m.	Marion Elizabeth Hartman
12:05 p.m.	John Reilly
THURSDAY	December 3
9:00 a.m.	Kathleen Geraghty Brody Edward Hydock
FRIDAY	December 4
7:00 a.m.	Paul V. Cavanaugh
12:05 p.m.	Barbara Ciszewska and the Ciszewski Family
SATURDAY	December 5
8:00 a.m.	Jacki Negri
5:30 p.m.	Donald Cavanaugh Kathleen Gero 1 st Anniversary
SUNDAY	December 6
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:00 a.m.	Dennis L. Weidler Fr. Lawrence DeMaria
10:00 a.m.	Edward Gilhooly Joseph Fiori
12:15 p.m.	Constantine Carras Matthew McQuaid
5:30 p.m.	Kathleen M. McCormack Louis Nucci

LIVE STREAMING MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. - Fri. at 12:05 p.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.
 Sun. 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

HELP NEEDED AFTER LITURGIES

Assumption Church needs many volunteers to help us assist those attending Mass each weekend, to answer questions, to sanitize the church after each Mass, and monitor compliance with the requirement to wear a mask or face covering. Volunteers should be between the ages of 18 and 60, and have no underlying health conditions. Personal protective equipment, i.e. masks, hand sanitizer, etc., as well as training, will be provided. Contact Bill Duggan, at wcdugganjr@hotmail.com or 973-960-6417 if you can help.

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17,19; 64:2-7

In this reading from the Hebrew Scriptures, the prophet known as Isaiah of the Restoration prays to God for assistance as the newly returned exiles from Babylon seek to rebuild their lives. Repeatedly addressing God as Father, the prophet hopes that God's presence will be dramatically manifest, as it was on Mount Sinai centuries before. Then, freed from sinful tendencies, the people will be like clay in God's hands.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

In this excerpt from one of his letters to the early Church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul writes that God will fortify believers as they wait for the return of Jesus in glory.

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

In this reading from the Gospel of Mark, Jesus warns that God's people must be prepared to demonstrate their faithfulness at all times.



**We invite you to prayerfully reflect
on the Readings for the week of November 29**

Monday	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8-

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Charles Arnolt, Charles Arteglier, Greg and John Baxter, Paula Rose Carducci, Jim Cavanaugh, John Hyland, Kenneth Krause, Nancy Arteglier, Jim Mongey, Sister Marie Graziano, Jack Guerriero, Francesca Kobylarz-Bongiorno, Saletha Corbin, Ray Donovan, Stephanie Trincanella, Rob Loia, Terri Abrams, Louis Cicitta, John Jennings, Madeline Longo, Janet Friedman, Janet Stiles, Ruth Puoti, Michael Grogan, John Hefferon, Doris Bonanno, Terrence Wanniski, Audrey Roast, Vivian Hart, Debra Phillip, Capt. Roseanne Hartley, Gloria Dabal, Millie Fragopane, Norman Gravino, Kenneth Bodnar, Dr. Orlando Ternen, Linda Leo, Michael Scavone, David Levit, Sylvia Walsh, Philip Barret, Fr. Jude Salas, Rowland Lucid, Francis Romance, Joey Jones, Marianne Jones, Joe Jones, Anthony Sauchelli, Angela Caraccia, Maria Marrero-Kirc, Ian Nguyen, Rossana Wright, Jim Wright, Will Cofnuk, Fred Lawless, Margarita Pagan, Kyle Gannon, Mary Author, Marie-Abou-Daoud, Irma Zuwolinsky, Cody Diorio, Fr. Philip-Michael Tangorra, Fr. Edwin Saumut, Len Solimene, Richard Giacabone, Frank Vallario, Walter Touchette, Ray Maskal, Dale Potter, Sr. Joan Daniel Healy, Fr. Joseph Lugo, Fr. Leonardo Jaramillo, Rev. Yohan Serrano, Jean McHugh, Lonnie Ridley, Fr. Eugene Romano, Catherine and Raymond Corrine, Joseph Luayon, Vincent Marella, Fr. Rick Hardy, Phyllis Savage, Kiva Sullivan, Carl Sullivan, Mark Anderl, Reginald Flowers, David and Linda Barillo, Craig P. Walsh, Paul Torres, Stephanie Bailey, David Baime, Margo Milecofsky, Susan McGovern, Beverly Noreault, James Buckley, Mary Anne Gotch, Tom Walsh, Regina Bennett, Valdo Brito, Eric Simonsen, Rev. Milton Comargo, Lilian Vargas, James Basile, Jack Anderson, Anita Sullivan, Sal Enea, Patty Gallagher, Mark Enea, Brian LaBoryf Marc Dabal, Sr. Jo Mascera, Patricia Felix, Charolette Spires, Richard Comerford, Andrew Sudylo, Delia McGee and Maurice Elbeck, Tony Pace, Kathleen Peg, Maria and Sidney Bowers, Msgr. George Dudak, Donald Karsko, Alex Donahoe.

Please call the Parish Office at 973-539-2141 with the names of who you would like included in the prayers for the good health of the sick and homebound.

2020 DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL "LOVE THY NEIGHBOR"

This time of year, as we plan to celebrate Thanksgiving, our thoughts and prayers will be for all those who passed away from the coronavirus and the many families impacted. It will be for those on the frontlines of COVID-19 who selflessly care for so many. It will be for all who may be hurting in some way.

In our own diocese, tens of thousands of your neighbors in profound need seek out the services of our Catholic Charities and, with help from the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, they find an open door and a compassionate response. Please make a pledge to our Appeal today! For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2020appeal.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY AND THEIR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE SERVED, OR ARE SERVING, IN THE ARMED FORCES

CW3 Michael Benkosky Green Beret, Special Forces, Airborne Joint Forces; Captain William H. Shipp, Military Professor, Naval War College, Newport, RI; Andrew Vasquez US Army; Andy Soucy US Army; Dan Lessnau Former Marine and Veteran of the Viet Nam War; Kevin Felix US Military Colonel; Lt. Tim Fleury, US Navy; Staff Sergeant William J. McSweeney Retired Marine Served Around the World; Matthew Gonabe, Lt. US Navy Pilot Serving in the Persian Gulf; David Ribardo, 1st Lt. US Army Serving in Afghanistan; Capt. Brendan Griswold 82nd Air Borne in Afghanistan; Capt. Patrick Flynn, US Army 1st Infantry, Afghanistan; Sergeant Richard Galluzzo Serving in Afghanistan, Lt. Thomas Keyes Jr.; Capt. Scott and Meghan Harra, US Army in Afghanistan; Captain Timothy Newcomb, US Army Special Forces; Col. Jason M. Barrett, USMC in Iraq and Afghanistan; Capt. Andrew Pineda and Capt. Laurence Pineda, US Air Force, SMSgt. John Bartow, Stratton ANGB NY, Douglas Reisch, 1/325 Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, Daniel Baron, US Navy, Hawaii, CPT Schuyler Orecchio, US Army, Special Operator 2nd Class Patrick Gaven, USN, Staff Sargent Brent M. Betit, ARNG, First Sgt. Jeramiah Dempsey, USAF, Dr. Casey McCann, Lt. Commander Navy; 1st Lt. J.D. Poling, US Army, Gitmo, Cuba, PFC Peter Mitchell, USMC, Dale G. Potter, Retired Lt. Commander US Navy, and Major US Marine Corps, Lt. Michael Herbert Jr. 3-66 Armored Brigade 1st Infantry Division Fort Riley Kansas deployed to Germany, Seaman Connor Fitzpatrick, US Navy, Great Lakes, IL., Brendan Rochelle, PFC, 1/127 82nd Airborne, Fort Bragg.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Do you need help? Our Good Samaritan Ministry can assist registered parishioners with various errands and services. If you, or anyone you know, is unable to get groceries, prescriptions or other necessities, due to the Coronavirus restrictions or for any other reason, please have them contact our Good Samaritan coordinator for the month of December, Dot Baron (973) 538-6451.



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming . . . May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” (Mark 13: 33-37)

On the First Sunday of Advent we are challenged to watch for Jesus coming in to our lives every day, even as we prepare for his coming at the end of all time in glory. Here is a reflection I hope you will enjoy.

It's been a long year of waiting: waiting to determine the depth of the danger, waiting for a sense of how long, waiting for clear directions as to what to do next.

For some, the waiting has been especially excruciating: waiting and hoping that our loved one will survive — for some families, that hope crashed into grief.

Many have lost hope that their jobs will ever return and are desperate for some sense of what to do next.

Now, as winter begins, we continue to wait: for a vaccine, for a return to normal, for the next crisis.

Yes, the waiting has been painful and distressing. But, for many of us, this pandemic Advent also been a time of change and conversion: We've grown closer to our families. We have a new appreciation of those who work hard — and mostly unnoticed — to keep open the services we need to function. We've realized that God has raised up many saints in our midst, courageous and brave prophets clad in PPE. And we understand as we've never understood before how much we need one another and can't wait to re-connect with family and neighbors and friends and classmates live, in person, not on a screen via Zoom or Skype.

This year of 2020 has been one long Advent — and it's not over. But it has been an Advent of discovery, of awareness, of insight; an Advent for seeing with new hearts and spirits God in our midst.

The late Father Henri Nouwen wrote that our lives are a continuing Advent, an Advent in which “the Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you

will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.” Waiting is often the cost of love: in waiting we realize our powerlessness; we realize our deepest hopes and wants; we realize the gift of those we love in our lives. As we struggle through this especially difficult Advent of 2020, may we open our homes and hearts to the light of God's compassion and peace in these dark, difficult days. (Connections)

SCRIPTURE

Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter;
we are all the work of your hands.

In Christ's Peace,
Father John

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

STAY AWAKE

During Advent, we also remember and celebrate that one day we will see God face to face. The joy of this "second coming" is anticipated as much as the great event of his first coming in history is remembered.

Adults: What can I do this Advent to show I am as concerned about my encounter with Christ as I am about my retirement benefits and mortgage payments?

Children: How can I help other children in need during this time of Advent so that they can celebrate Christmas better?

A Family Perspective: In family life, we try to prepare ourselves for many future things: our next vacation, our children's education, our retirement. We are careful not to allow ourselves to be caught by surprise so that we can handle any challenges our family may face. Today's Gospel reminds us that we are called to be just as attentive and alert to the coming of the Son of Man so that it will not catch us unprepared. This means attending to our family's spiritual life as carefully as we attend to other important family matters. As you gather as a family, talk about a time when you received surprise visitors at your house, perhaps a neighbor who stopped by or a relative who arrived unannounced. Was your household prepared to receive this unannounced guest? What might your family have done differently if you knew ahead of time that this visitor was going to arrive? Jesus told his disciples that no one knows when the Son of Man will return, except the Father.

During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also check to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again. Talk about how your family can recommit to daily prayer, reading Scripture, and staying faithful to God's commandments. Pray together that through this Advent season your family will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again.

ASSUMPTION 2020 GIVING TREE

Given the challenging times faced by everyone during the COVID pandemic, this year's Giving Tree will be **online only** at www.assumptionparish.org. Visit our [parish website](http://www.assumptionparish.org) to find out more about how you can participate in our 2020 Giving Tree. Now, more than ever, we are grateful for your generosity.

DISCOVER LASTING JOY

This Advent, join Chris Stefanick and Cardinal-elect Raniero Cantalamessa for a FREE 26-day online retreat all about JOY, beginning November 29th!

The Cardinal-elect was the retreat master for the last three popes. This is your chance to join a retreat led by the official Preacher to the Papal Office!

The key to unshakeable joy is not to change our circumstances. It is to change ourselves. With special guests including Matt Maher and Jim Wahlberg, this retreat is not one to miss.

Visit www.assumptionparish.org to register.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

This year if you would like a name inscribed into our Book of Remembrance, you can email your names to assumption@assumptionparish.org, or call the parish office and provide the names to us. We will inscribe the names of all who are dear to your hearts, who have gone before us into this joyful reunion with God.

ADVENT IN LIGHTS

Resurrection Parish is hosting its first **ever Drive Thru Advent in Lights** event in our back parking lot (651 Millbrook Ave, Randolph). We invite all surrounding community members to drive through on Sunday, November 29 from 6:30-7:30. A life sized Advent Calendar, blazing Advent Wreath, Living Nativity and fun giveaways are planned under twinkling lights and the stars. Please join us for a safe and festive way to kick off the Advent Season.

WHAT ARE VESPERS?

Beginning Thursday, December 3rd, at 7 p.m., and continuing December 10th and 17th, Fr. Luke will be praying Vespers in the church, and you are invited to participate.

Evening Prayer (also called Vespers) is part of the Liturgy of the Hours. Through this prayer, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world.

Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organized around this prayer, keeping God always at the center of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer.

Evening Prayer gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God (see Psalm 141:1).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a fulfilling and rewarding volunteer opportunity for yourself, a friend, or family member? Consider volunteering with VNA!

We offer a range of volunteer activities for people in all walks of life, including students who are looking for a meaningful way to volunteer with a parent or grandparent. Make a difference in your community by volunteering your time and services to someone in need. Please click or call 973-451-4128 to speak with the Development Coordinator, Rachel Enderle.

- **Grocery Shopping for the Homebound**
The House Calls for Groceries program provides assistance to homebound residents in Morris County. Volunteers are asked to shop about once a week, based upon client needs.
- **Time to Care Program**
Join the VNA Time to Care program and make phone calls to those who are in need of a comforting voice. This is a great way to be involved in the community at this time of self-quarantine.

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Giving Tree

Last Christmas, your generosity provided 1,119 gifts, and brightened the holidays for hundreds of men, women and children across Morris County. Given the challenging times during the COVID pandemic, this year's Giving Tree will be online only at www.assumptionparish.org. The goal remains the same, gifts given out of love to meet the wishes or needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ, young and old alike. Simply visit the parish website, www.assumptionparish.org, select Giving Tree 2020 from the main page, and select the organization.

Important Things to Note

- The easiest way to participate in this year's giving tree is to purchase your gifts online, and have them shipped directly to the organizations address, which we have provided for you on our website and in the Sign Up Genius.
- Do NOT wrap the gifts.
- Select from the gift ideas provided. If you would like to purchase more than 1 gift, please select another name on the list.
- Each organization has a unique shipping address and instructions noted on the web page.
- Gifts are to be received by the organizations by Friday December 4, 2020.
- Gifts are not to be sent or brought to the church or parish office, but rather sent directly to the organization no later than Friday December 4, 2020.

As in years past, monetary donations are welcome and can be submitted online, placed in the collection baskets or mailed to the Parish Office. Make checks payable to Assumption Church and in the memo section write Giving Tree.

Thank you for your continued support to those in need of our help and prayers in our community .Please call or email Brian Morgan at 973-462-6972, bpm98@hotmail.com or Diane Otto at 201-602-8990, dbo0221@gmail.com.

O Come O Come Emmanuel

Advent at Assumption Church

Vespers, Thursdays, December 3, 10 and 17 at 7 p.m

Evening Prayer (also called Vespers) is part of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Through this prayer, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world.

Advent Penance Service, Monday, December 14 at 7 p.m.

Followed by individual confessions

Confessions By appointment 973-539-2141,

Fr. John, ext. *815, Fr. Luke, ext. *814

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

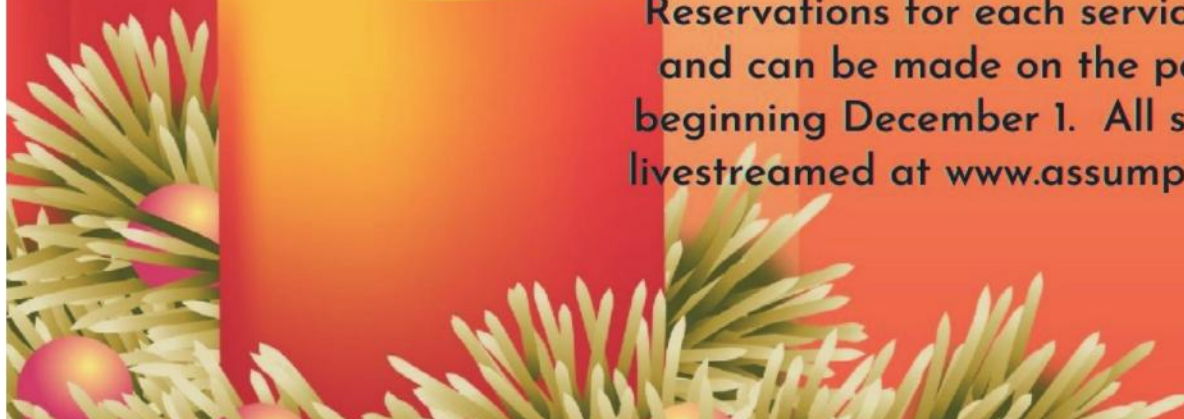
Monday, December 7 – 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

Followed by Adoration

Tuesday, December 8 – 12:05 and 7:30 p.m.

Advent Taizé Prayer, Friday, December 18 at 7 p.m.

Reservations for each service are needed and can be made on the parish website beginning December 1. All services will be livestreamed at www.assumptionparish.org.





DISCALCED CARMELITES OF THE MOST BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL
Morristown, NJ

Sweet Carmel - A cookbook of Desserts



Friends of the Carmelite Sisters of Morristown,

Our annual bake sale fundraiser at Assumption Church cannot be held this year due to the pandemic. The cloistered Sisters devote more than 8 hours a day praying for peace in the world and are completely dependent on the goodwill of the community to meet their basic needs.

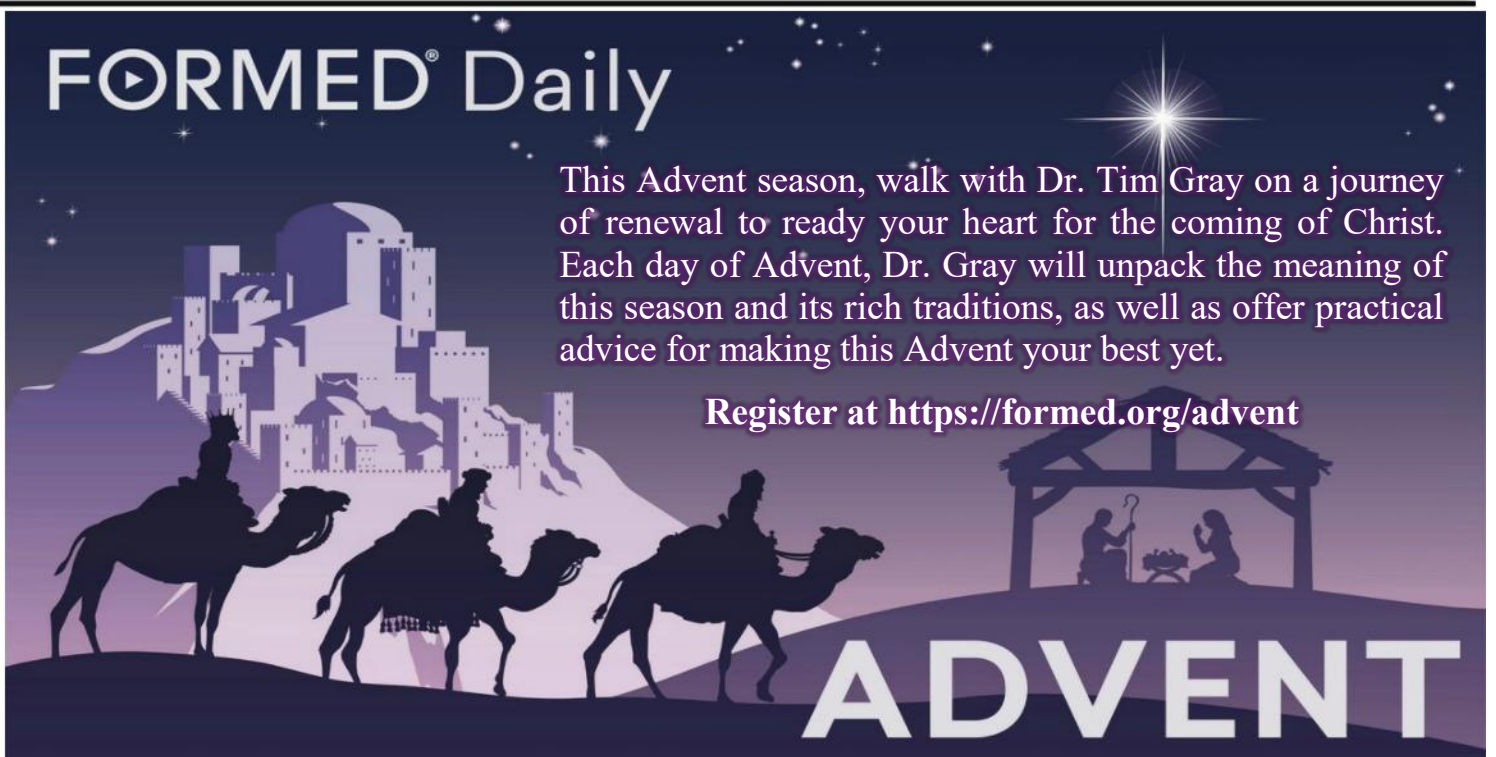
In lieu of the bake sale, volunteers have created Sweet Carmel, a cookbook of desserts, which includes recipes and Catholic themed photos taken by a professional food photographer! There will be a limited number of printed copies available by mid December. There is also a digital version that can be downloaded immediately upon payment. Order your Sweet Carmel Cookbook at www.carmelnj.org/cookbook

Thank you for your consideration and your support. Please keep the Carmelite Sisters in your prayers, especially during these trying times.

FORMED® Daily

This Advent season, walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ. Each day of Advent, Dr. Gray will unpack the meaning of this season and its rich traditions, as well as offer practical advice for making this Advent your best yet.

Register at <https://formed.org/advent>





Blessing of Advent Wreath

Introduction: The Advent wreath is made of four candles and a circle of branches. Before the first candle is lighted, the household gathers for this blessing.

All make the sign of the cross.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Leader: In the short days and long nights of Advent, we realize how we are always waiting for deliverance, always needing salvation by our God. Around this wreath, we shall remember God's promise.

Reader: Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing. (Isaiah 9:1-2) *(The family's Bible may be used for an alternate reading, such as Isaiah 63:16-17 or Isaiah 64:2-7.)* The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

After a time of silence, all join in prayers of intercession and the in the Lord's Prayer.

Leader: Let us now pray for God's blessings upon us and upon this wreath.

After a short silence, the leader prays:

Leader: Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The first candle is then lighted.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel")

All: O come, desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of humankind; Bid ev'ry sad divisions cease And by thyself our Prince of peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Each day in Advent, perhaps at the evening meal, the candles are lighted: one candle the first week, two the second, and so forth.



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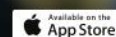
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