

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2016
LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 10

5:00 p.m. – Helen & Charles Vasey req. by their daughter, Ethel Gorman

Sunday, December 11

8:30 a.m. – William McCue req. by Shaffer family
10:00 a.m. – Rachel D'Anton & William V. D'Anton Sr. & Jr. req. by Carol & Michael D'Anton

11:30 a.m. – Polish Mass

Monday, December 12

12:00 p.m. – Charlie Wagan Juarez req. by Elmer Maximo

Tuesday, December 13

12:00 p.m. – For the People of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

Wednesday, December 14

12:00 a.m. – Gloria R. Costillo req. by Elmer Maximo

Thursday, December 15

12:00p.m. –Nels Salvesen

Friday, December 16

12:00 p.m. – Frank D. Wasko

Saturday, December 17

5:00 p.m. – Ronald Cooke req. by Aunt Geri

Sunday, December 18

8:30 a.m. – Bill Lenahan req. by his wife, Eleanor Lenahan
10:00 a.m. – Stephan McCabe req. by Mc Govern family

Hoffman,, Mike Izzo, Ethel Gorman, Edward Frame, Adam Hayward, Ronnie Abrams, Carol Centonze, James Boyle.

PARISH POLICY – PLEASE NOTE – All Catholic families living within the parish boundaries are encouraged to register as members. Registration as a parish member has many benefits, and in particular, facilitates any arrangements for baptisms, marriages, sponsors, etc. **Please contact the Rectory at 973-627-0422**

First Friday Communion Calls: A priest will be making “First Friday” visits to those who are homebound. These visits will be made by one of our priests who will distribute Holy Communion. He will also be available for the sacraments of penance and anointing of the sick. Please call the rectory at 972-627-0422 to register your name for this monthly visit by one of our priests

For St. Cecilia Cemetery information, please email Diane Boykow at StCeciliaCemetery@gmail.com

Food Certificates: Food certificates will be available after the Masses and in the rectory to purchase. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile program. If you have not, please give it a try!

We've changed envelope companies: If you haven't received your most recent set of envelopes, please contact the rectory at 973-627-0422.

Banns of Marriage: Angela Osario & Christopher Hoffman will be married December 17, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Hospitality: Please join the Women Society for hospitality after the 10AM mass on Sunday, December 18th.

Food Drive: The weekend of December 17-18th is our monthly food drive for the Rockaway Food Pantry. Canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, pasta, etc. Last month we had a wonderful donation to the pantry. Thank you.

Women's Society Christmas Party: All women of the parish please join us on Monday night, December 12th at 7pm in the Rectory basement. If you would like to join in the grab bag bring a \$10 gift. For more information about our society, please call Claire 973-586-9706.

OPLATEK AVAILABLE – Oplatek, the traditional bread used for the Christmas Eve Vigil Supper, can be found at the side altar in the church. Your donation may be placed in the basket located next to the oplatek.



Maria Del Pilar Ruiz

Collection for December 3&4: \$2,887.00
Parish Pay Electronic Giving: \$ 2,529.34(November)
Collection from last year: \$ 3,447.00
Ongoing Renovation: Funds Collected \$23,500.80
Total Cost: (\$23,127.35)
Net: \$373.45

PARISH PAY: Have you thought about automating your giving? No more writing checks! You decide the amount and the frequency. Sign up today for automatic contributions to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Go to the Parish Pay link at www.sacredheartrockaway.org or call 866-727-4741.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS
IN THE MILITARY

Major Mike Cherry
LCpl. Aleksandr Killeen,
Airman 1st Cl. Andrew Mistkowski,
1st Lt. Nicholas DelCore, Air Force
Captain Jessica L. Rotile Rudo
Kenneth Rudo, Warrant Officer,1

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Irene Schreiber, Doug Bansch, Maria Acevedo, TJ Schoudel, Capt. Adam Cowan, USA, Julio Soto, Ellen Forbes, Ben Marvilla, Michelle Monslave, Amelia Marie Cayea, Mary Therese Loftus, Sharon Bauer, Mary Davenport, Jose Prado, Arlene Berlin, Robert Nielsen, Marge Vogel, Efrain Gonzalez, Amanda Villarubia, Mary Skelly, John Skutka, William McBurney, Anne Riordan, D.M. Lynch, Linda

| | <i>Lector</i> | <i>Ministers of Communion</i> | <i>Altar Servers</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| December 17 @ 5:00 pm | Lyle Ryder | Anne Marie Hopler Lauran Andreotta | Liam Orr Volunteers Needed |
| December 18 @ 8:30 am | John Sautter | Mark Howarth Kathy Caldwell | Ashley Garzon Brandon Garzon Gianna Nelson Gabe Nelson |
| December 18 @10:00 am | Michele Shaffer | Bridget Wilson Dennis Corbisiero | Inigo Cadag Joaquin Cadag Anthony Yagoda Marc Winowski |

ALL MINISTERS: Copies of the schedule are available in the sacristy. Any questions/concerns please contact the appropriate group leader.

My dear parishioners,

In our gathering to celebrate the Lord's Day we also mark the Third Sunday of Advent. This day is also known as GAUDETE SUNDAY. This is a day of rejoicing as we are so very near to the celebration of the Nativity feast. The use of rose color vestments is a visible sign during the liturgy of this joy. This is the Sunday on which the Pope blesses the images of the Christ Child which will appear in the Nativity scenes and crèches in Rome. This is a tradition which we bring to Rockaway this year and I am hoping that many will respond to the invitation I extend last Sunday to bring in their statues today for a blessing which will be taken back home for Christmas.

In today's second lection from the Letter of Saint James we read, "Make your hearts firm for the coming of the Lord is at hand." Yes, it is time! The Lord is coming and we must prepare. TIME is a gift from God which He bestows upon us to use wisely. The Church will say that TIME is a "sacrament", in that it is a means by which God's grace comes to us, such as the New Year of Grace 2017. In speaking about time I would like to address the matter of time in conjunction with the liturgy. Would you come late to a Broadway show or leave before the conclusion of a concert, both which requires a "not so cheap" ticket? Of course not! It is important that in our coming to the Lord's House we arrive before liturgy begins so that we have time to recollect and prepare for the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries. It is wrong to leave the liturgy before the final blessing. I am reminded that when we do so we follow the example of the traitor Judas, who left the Last Supper before the Mass was ended. As your pastor I remind you of the importance of arriving on time for the Holy Mass and not leaving before time! I do not chastise you but give you my fatherly guidance. I am so happy to see all of you at church and I pray that your presence in the Lord's House will always bring you joy and peace.

It's vacation time for our seminarians, Joseph Boykow and Mateusz (Matt) Darlak. Both will be home until after the New Year and I look forward to their assistance during the Christmas season. Our seminarians are a great gift and we thank God for their commitment to the Church.

In conclusion, I remind you of the Advent Penance service scheduled for next Monday, December 19th beginning at 7 o'clock in the evening at Saint Cecilia Church. We will have a number of priests with us to facilitate the process of going to confession in a timely manner. Please schedule this time to prepare your hearts for the coming of the "King of Glory."

God bless you,
Father Zig

From Fr. Marcin

ADVENT – time of prayer and reflection...

How do I welcome “the one who is to come”?

What has brought me joy thus far in this Advent season?

Advent represents our expectation, anticipation, and preparation for who Christ is and what He has done for us. He arrived into the world as a human being, being fully God and fully man. He came to identify as one of us, as the Son of Man, as a baby born in a manger. He came for us, He came for you and He comes into our lives and into our hearts. He is coming again in great power and glory to bring His Kingdom into completion.

"Prepare the way of the Lord" serves as a main topic of this season. As we get ready for Christmas, we should not neglect to prepare our lives for Jesus, who came as "the light of the world." His light penetrated a dark world, which allowed all to see their Messiah, and the hope of their future.

Today we need to be prepared for the coming of Christ. Learning more about what the Bible reveals about Christ's return will enable us to understand the possible significance of world events.

Be ready and watchful, for the light of the world has come and will surely come again.

From today's Gospel:

“Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me”

Advent prayer:

Lord Jesus who “are about to come”,
do not delay any more and listen to the cry of the poor
who look to you for salvation, justice and joy.

Grant us clear eyes and a pure heart
so that we may be able to discern
your active and fruitful presence

also in the events

of our “today”

that looks so grey

and empty of rays of hope!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others-educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

SIMBANG GABI - The 1st night of the traditional novena of Masses before Christmas (Simbang Gabi) will be celebrated at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 in the evening. Rev. Mateusz Jasniewicz will be the main celebrant. Fellowship and refreshment immediately follows Mass. This traditional mass is sponsored by the Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) of the Diocese of Paterson. For more information or if you wish to help, please contact Elmer Maximo at (973)664-1949.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS – An advent penance service for both Sacred Heart and Saint Cecilia parishioners will take place on Monday, December 19th in Saint Cecilia Church beginning at 7 o'clock in the evening. A number of priests will be available for confession. Adults and children should approach the sacrament of penance prior to the celebration of the feast of Our Lord's Nativity so that we may welcome the Christ Child into our grace-filled hearts.

St. Paul's Abbey Christmas Tree Sale: St. Paul's Abbey, on Route 206 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose “n” cut 7 days a week from November 25 to December 23, 9 am to 4 pm. They also have the Abbey Gift Shop with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including books, statues, jewelry and more!

New Jersey Right To Life Respect Life Raffle 2016 Winners: 1st PRIZE – Volvo - Barbara Ellis, Bedminster: 2nd PRIZE - \$1,000 Shop Rite GC - Vince Giallorenzo, Wyckoff : 3rd PRIZE - \$750 Shop Rite GC - John Corcoran, River Vale: 4th PRIZE - \$500 Shop Rite GC - Dan Zorovich, Allentown. CONGRATULATIONS to all the Winners! Thanks to all who participated and made our raffle a huge success!