

St. Robert Bellarmine Church

"Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus"



MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10**

5:15 PM Jim Higgins (5th Ann.),
By wife Pat
 Diana Lynch (Ann.),
By family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 AM Hazel & Paul Tessier (Rem.),
By daughter

10:00 AM John Merluzzo (6th Ann.),
By Marilyn
 Frank & Margaret Colasanto
 (Rem.),
By family

11:30 AM Ivone Teneiro (10th Ann.),
By husband and daughter

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:00 AM Robert Fattone (Rem.),
By his sister

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:00 AM Lucy Montecalvo (Birth.),
By family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

12:10 PM Frank E. St. Angelo (59th Ann.)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:00 AM NO SCHEDULED MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:00 AM Lisa Furia (Birth.),
By mom
 Fr. Arthur Bienvenue (Rem.),
By Fr. John

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:15 PM Bessie & Louis Acciardo and
 Donna Acciardo Mieth (Rem.),
By family
 Gerard Cousineau (Ann.),
By family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 AM Antonio Vargas (Birth.),
By the Earley family

10:00 AM Laurie Parrillo (Birth.),
By mom and family
 John Ascioffa (12th Ann.)
By family

11:30 AM Donald Devine and Mary &
 Dexter LaCroix (Rem.),
By family

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: MONDAY,
 DECEMBER 12th AT 7:00PM**
 An opportunity to meet the Forgiving Christ
 in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Visiting
 priests will be available that evening.
 All parishioners are welcome

The Third Sunday of the Season of Advent

December 11, 2016

PASTOR'S COMMENTS

Borrowed from Paul Turner

Joy in the Coming of Christ

The joy of Christmas is in the air. We receive cards from friends far away. We attend parties with friends close at hand. We hear the happy tunes of Christmas. We shop in a spirit of love. We open our hearts and purses to charities, sharing our concern with strangers in need. We spread the love of Christ.

In his Letter to the Philippians, Paul writes, "Rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near." Paul equates kindness with rejoicing. And the reason for this joy is the nearness of the Lord.

Paul is not talking Christmas here. He does not say, "Rejoice! Christmas is near." He has no interest in an annual celebration of the first coming of Christ. He wants the Philippians to rejoice that the second coming is close at hand.

A lot of us think about the second coming of Christ with anxiety. We worry about dying. What will it be like to meet Christ face to face? Paul would have us put these concerns aside. We should rejoice at the thought of seeing Jesus.

The joy of Christmas fills our hearts because we remember with happiness the birth of our savior. But joy should also fill us when we think ahead to the return of our savior. "Have no anxiety," Paul says. "Then the peace of God will guard your hearts in Christ Jesus." The Lord is near! Rejoice!

Fr. John

**Sanctuary Lamp**

Week of December 11 – December 17

"In Memory of"

Frank E. St. Angelo (Rem.)



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Office Hours: 9am to 4pm.
Monday – Thursday
Phone : 232-9321
E-mail – srbccd@aol.com

Religious Education Classes

Day	Date	Grade	Time
Sun	Dec 18	1 thru 4	No Class
Sun.	Dec 18	7 thru 10	No Class
Mon	Dec. 19	10	7 – 8 PM Basket Filling
Tue	Dec. 20	5 & 6	No Class

Don't Be Afraid of Your Weakness

Three times [Peter] denied Jesus, Precisely when he should have been closest to him; and when he hits bottom, he meets the gaze of Jesus, who patiently, wordlessly, says to him, “ Peter don't be afraid of your weakness; trust in me.” Peter understands; he feels the loving gaze of Jesus, and he weeps. How beautiful is this gaze of Jesus--- how much tenderness is there! Brothers and sisters, let us never lose trust in the patience and mercy of God. God Bless

On December 19th the 10th Grade

Confirmation candidates will be assisting in putting together the food baskets for those in need. Each student will receive 2 hours service time.

Time 7:00 to 8:00 PM

MR. ROB MANZO

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, ROSARY FOLLOWING 8:00 **AM** MASS IN THE UPPER CHURCH

SUNDAY, AA GROUP MEETING AT 5:00 **PM** IN THE CHURCH HALL (EVERY SUNDAY) (*Note the time change*)

WEDNESDAY, AAGROUP MEETING AT 7:00 **AM** IN THE CHURCH HALL (EVERY WEDNESDAY)

THURSDAY, NA GROUP MEETING AT 7:00 **PM** IN THE SACRISTY

FRIDAY, AA AT 8:00 **PM** IN THE CHURCH HALL (EVERY FRIDAY)

FRIDAY, NA GROUP MEETING AT 10:00 **PM** IN THE CHURCH HALL



DAILY READINGS

Sunday Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Monday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30

Friday Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36

Saturday Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17



Call: Jan Zarrella (274-6576) or Charon Souza (231-3962) or Eileen Morrison (349-3601)



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FOOD SHELF!
The Food Shelf is in need of these items:

PEANUT BUTTER / JELLY

MIXED VEGETABLES

JARRED PASTA SAUCE

CLEANING PRODUCTS

\$15.00 STOP & SHOP OR PRICE RITE GIFT CARDS ARE

ALWAYS WELCOME.

Thank you for your generosity!

Volunteer Opportunities at St. Patrick's Meal Kitchen

You can help our struggling brothers and sisters by volunteering at St. Patrick's Meal Kitchen at 244 Smith St. in Providence. We are seeking participation from St. Robert Bellarmine Confirmation students and other parishioners from 3:30-6:00 on the following Mondays:

- December 26
- January 26 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- February 20 (President's Day)

Please contact Terry Novak at terrynovak57@msn.com if you are interested in volunteering. Thank you!

Retirement Fund for Religious

Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

Open Your Soul

Let's not allow Christmas to come and go without meeting Jesus, the Face of God's Mercy, in the Sacrament of Mercy: Confession. Speaking about Confession to Saint Faustina, Jesus said: *Just as you prepare in My presence, so also you make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is, for Me, only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest it is that I am making use of; open your soul in Confession as you would to Me, and I will fill it with My light* (Diary of Saint Faustina, #1725). Think about God's mercy waiting for you...and consider going to Confession anytime, all-day, **from 8:30 AM to 3 PM at Saint Philip Church in Greenville on Saturday, December 17th**

BEACON HOSPICE

Beacon Hospice provides quality end-of-life care to local terminally-ill patients. We are looking for caring and compassionate individuals in this area to spend time with our patients from a volunteer. Volunteer can provide much needed support to patients and their families in a number of ways.

There is a free training course that is required on what hospice is and how to interact with hospice patients. The trainings are held locally. For more information, interested volunteers should contact Ashley Toste, Volunteer Coordinator at 401-438-0008 or Ashley.Toste@amedisys.com

Meditation for the Day

"Do not hide your light under a bushel. Arise and shine, for the light has come and the glory of the Lord is risen in you."

The glory of the Lord shines in the beauty of your character. It is risen in you, even though you can realize it only in part.

"Now you see as in a glass darkly, but later you will see face to face." The glory of the Lord is too dazzling for mortals to see fully on earth.

But some of this glory is risen in you when you try to reflect that light in your life. Today I pray that I may try to be a reflection of God's Divine Light. I pray that some of its rays may shine in my life.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another," As we await the coming of the Lord, let us live in our marriages with endurance and encouragement. Explore how by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWMEMA.org.

WE ARE COLLECTING FOOD FOR CHRISTMAS 2016



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

**THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE NON-
PERISHABLE ITEMS WE WOULD APPRECIATE
WE WILL ALSO ACCEPT MONETARY DONATIONS
AND/OR GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR TURKEYS.**

**STUFFING MIX
CANNED GRAVY**

**We are preparing for an increase over the requests
received last year.**

**Please bring your items or
donations in by Sunday, December 18th.**

40 Week Club News

Looking for a fresh, new idea for the “PERFECT” Christmas Gift? What do you think of a gift that keeps on giving for 40 Weeks? How about a gift that entitles the recipient to a chance to win real money for 40 consecutive weeks? Even better, a gift that entitles the ticket holder to a wonderful evening of dining and dancing at the Valley Country Club on October 29, 2017? And finally, a gift that will benefit the needy of Johnston through the good works of St. Robert’s Parish and its Food Shelf?

Well, your search is over!!! Purchase a 40-Week Club ticket for a family member or friend and your \$50 donation will be remembered for over 40 weeks and will go a long way toward helping someone in need. It is the “PERFECT” gift.

To purchase a “GIFT TICKET”, you may contact Pat @ 647-7461, Ann @ 944-6792 or Judy @ 232-3603 and your ticket will be mailed to you in time for Christmas, or you can pick one up at the Rectory Office. All “GIFT TICKETS” must be paid in full at time of purchase.

Regular sales for 40-Week Club tickets will begin on January 7/8 after all Masses or from your favorite Captain.

If you are interested in being a Captain or volunteering to help in any way call one of the ladies at the above numbers. We look forward to hearing from you!!