

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

**5:15 PM** **Ida and Omer Palardy (Ann.),**  
*By daughter and family*  
**Luigi and Rosa Treglia (Ann.),**  
*By daughter, son and family*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**

**8:00 AM** **Pauline Laliberte (Rem.),**  
*By family*  
**10:00 AM** **Frank and Margaret Colasanto (Rem.),**  
*By family*  
**John Ascioffa (Ann.),**  
*By family*  
**11:30 AM** **Deceased Members of the Devine and**  
**LaCroix Family (Rem.),**  
*By Carole*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 16**

**9:00 AM** **Mary Cournoyer (8<sup>th</sup> Ann.),**  
*By Claire and Lillian*  
**Lisa Furia (Rem.),**  
*By Lucille*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17**

**9:00 AM** **Barbara Hodge (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.) and Frank**  
**Russo**  
*(Ann.), By family*

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

**12:10 PM** **Deceased Members of the Perrotti and**  
**Ciccone Family (Rem.),** *By family*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19**

**9:00 AM** **NO SCHEDULED MASS TODAY**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20**

**9:00 AM** **Jacqueline Patenaude (Birth.),**  
*By the Nadeau family*  
**Katie Coughlin (Birth.),**  
*By Sandy*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**5:15 PM** **Claire Tumminelli (Ann.),**  
*By family*  
**Louis & Bessie Acciaro and Donna**  
**Acciaro Meith (Rem.),**  
*By family*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**

**8:00 AM** **Christopher & James Shepard**  
**(Birth./Christmas Rem.),**  
*By family*  
**Ann Toomey (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.),** *By family*  
**10:00 AM** **Laurie Parrillo (Birth.),**  
*By mom and family*  
**Marie Colaluca (Ann.),**  
*By family*  
**11:30 AM** **Deceased Members of the DiSanto Family**  
**(Rem.),** *By family*  
**Ernest and Katherine Oliver (Rem.),**  
*By family*

**Third Sunday  
of Advent**

December 15, 2019

Rejoice in the Lord always!

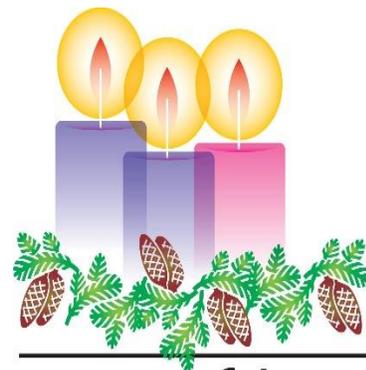
Borrowed from Paul Turner

**The Jesse Tree**

Today's first reading inspired the Advent custom of the Jesse tree. During Advent some households read stories from the Bible about the people and events that led up to the birth of Jesus. Those who hear the stories create depictions of them and hang these on a tree. The idea of decorating a tree comes from Isaiah's prophecy that "a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse." A "Jesse tree" reminds us of God's marvelous plan for salvation.

The entire passage is filled with words of comfort. The shoot sprouting from Jesse is to be a leader filled with God's spirit—a spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, and fear of the Lord. The reign of that ruler will even bring peace to animals. The lamb will host the wolf. The calf and young lion will be the playmates of a child.

Because Jesse was the father of David, the prophecy foretells an idealized time under a great king. When Christians hear this prophecy during Advent, we look farther down Jesse's lineage all the way to Jesus. Jesus was anointed with God's spirit and brought enemies together around a common belief in God's mercy.



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**Sanctuary Lamp**

*Week of December 15 – December 21*  
**"In Memory of"**

**Frank & Margaret Colasanto (Rem.),**  
*By family*





Family Faith Formation, Outreach and Evangelization  
Phone: 232-9321 E-mail: srbccd@gmail.com

It is easy to look at our world and become discouraged by the apparent absence of God and signs of God's salvation. Advent, however, is a season of hope, in which we acknowledge that salvation is both mysteriously present, even in our world, and yet to be fulfilled.

Read together today's Gospel. Think about John's question to Jesus: Are you the One? Jesus does not answer directly, but points to the signs of the kingdom present in his midst.

Together as a family, look through the newspaper for signs of hope that God is at work in our world. Pray that the world will know God's salvation by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

#### OUTREACH and EVANGELIZATION



This third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" Sunday based on the first word of the Latin Entrance Antiphon for this day, meaning "Rejoice", taken from **Philippians 4:4,5**: "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Rejoice in the Lord always").

Since Advent is a penitential season, the priest normally wears purple vestments, but on Gaudete Sunday, having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little and the priest may wear rose vestments. This is the Church's way of further heightening our expectation as we draw ever nearer the Solemnity of Christmas.

Providing us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation is also the reason that the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is lit on Gaudete Sunday, is traditionally rose-colored.

**From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**

Peace, Dina

## THIS WEEK

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

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

**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** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a, Mt 21:23-27

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

**Wednesday** Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

**Thursday** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

**Friday** Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45



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 Juice (Grape, Apple, Cranberry)

**Canned Fruit**

**Cleaning Products**

**Jarred Pasta Sauce/Boxed Pasta**

**\$10.00 STOP & SHOP OR PRICE RITE GIFT CARDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

**Thank you for your generosity!**



**Community Outreach Ministry**  
We will accept coats, hoodies,  
white socks, hats, gloves, and  
scarfs, no other clothing.

**Crocheters, Sewers and Knitters Wanted for:**  
lap blankets, hats, scarfs, mittens and prayer  
shawls. There is a real need for these items.

With thanks and gratitude, Carolyn & Marge

The Office of Life and Family will offer the *Our Lady of Sorrows* Bereavement Support program at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, lower level on **Tuesday evenings 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**, from **November 19, 2019 through January 21, 2020**, except for the weeks of Christmas and New year's. This support group provides a peaceful place to share and learn about grief with the spiritual comfort of our Catholic faith. It is most appropriate for adults at least three months beyond their loss. There is no cost to attend! For registration/information, contact: Peter A Magnotta at 421-7833, ext. 217.

You are invited to to serve as Christ did by joining fellow parishioners at MaryHouse meal kitchen, housed at St. Patrick's church and school in Providence. Please contact Terry Novak if you are able to serve on any of the following dates. Email is preferred--terrynovak57@msn.com--but you may also call 331-7075. (Volunteers must be at least 14 years old)

- December 23 (3:30-6:00 p.m.)
- December 25 (10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)
- December 30 (3:30-6:00 p.m.)
- January 20 (MLK Day; 3:30-6:00 p.m.)
- February 24 (3:30-6:00 p.m.)

**St. Gabriel's Call at St. Patrick's:** A special workshop consisting of an overview of the diocesan outreach ministry for women during and beyond pregnancy will be offered on **Saturday, January 4, 2020** from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's, 244 Smith Street, Providence. The agenda will include how you can help mom and baby and enrich their lives by mentoring, providing material needs, parenting and cooking skills. This workshop will be offered in English and Spanish. For more information and to RSVP please call 278-2518 or 421-7070.

**Are you an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? Would you like to bring Christ into the lives of our hospitalized brothers and sisters? Qualified Ministers of Holy Communion are needed for Roger Williams Hospital in Providence, RI. If you are interested please call James Willsey at 401-456-2284.**



**St. Robert Bellarmine Prayer Group**  
We will meet on Tuesdays, 2 times a month @ 7:30pm in the Church. Join us for prayer, faith sharing and scripture study.  
**Call Joanne Fede at 465-9916 for details.**

**Grateful for God's Providence**  
**St. Robert Bellarmine**  
**CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER**

A few weeks ago we participated in the ***Grateful for God's Providence*** Commitment Weekend and we are making progress toward reaching our goal. To the all families who made their commitment, we want to extend a special "Thank You!" for joining the other members of our parish family who have committed to this campaign. **This brings our total participation to 195 families. Our current pledge total is \$355,016!!** Thank you for your support!

If you have not participated to date, please help us build on this success and reach our goal!

**Our goal of \$423,714 is within reach! With each additional sacrifice, our goal becomes that much more attainable! Whatever the sacrifice you are able to give please know that it is greatly appreciated!!**

**Bone Builders** is an innovative program designed to promote bone health and overall well being for both men and women. Classes are operating on a donation of \$2 per class.

Classes are held in the church basement on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:30. All are welcome!!

VATICAN -- A Nativity scene is a simple reminder of something astonishing: God became human to reveal the greatness of his love "by smiling and opening his arms to all," Pope Francis said in a letter on the meaning and importance of setting up Christmas cribs.

"Wherever it is, and whatever form it takes, the Christmas creche speaks to us of the love of God, the God who became a child in order to make us know how close he is to every man, woman and child, regardless of their condition," the pope wrote in his letter, "Admirabile Signum" ("Enchanting Image").

Pope Francis signed the short letter Dec. 1, during an afternoon visit to Greccio, Italy, where St. Francis of Assisi set up the first Nativity scene in 1223.





## Christmas Season Schedule

### **December 24 – Christmas Eve**

**4:00 PM** – Christmas Prelude Music with our Youth Choir

4:30 PM - Vigil Mass

**10:00 PM** - Christmas Prelude Music with our Adult Choir

**10:30 PM** - Mass

### **December 25 – Christmas Day**

10:00 AM – Mass

### **January 1 – New Year's Day**

10:00 AM – Mass

*May the peace, love, hope and joy of the Christ Child  
fill our hearts, minds and homes  
throughout the entire Christmas season and the whole  
new year too.*



**The schedule for Weekday Masses beginning in January will be as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 9AM. Mass will be cancelled whenever Johnston Schools has a cancellation or delay of classes due to inclement weather. Any intention scheduled will be added to Fr. Richard's daily prayers.**