

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 24, 2017

Sunday, December 24

7:30 am † Reverend G. William Finch
9:00 am † Mr. & Mrs. Edwin H. James
11:00 am † James Bonfils

Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve

5:00pm † Admiral & Mrs. James D. Watkins
8:00pm † Frances Holman

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

9:00 am † John F. Watkins
11:00am † John Cardinal O'Connor

Tuesday, December 26

12:00 pm † Lina D'Silva

Wednesday, December 27

12:00 pm † Dante Pagi

Thursday, December 28

12:00 pm † Donald Mohr

Friday, December 29

12:00 pm † Larry Benes

Saturday, December 30

5:00 pm † Thomas & Patricia Brewer

St. Ann's Holiday Mass Schedule

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

9:00am (*Cantor*) and 11:00am Mass (*Choir*)

Tuesday, December 26: Parish Office closed.

St. Ann's New Year's Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 30:

Vigil Mass, 5:00pm

Sunday, December 31:

Feast of the Holy Family, 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am

Monday, January 1, 2018: New Year's Day Holy Day of Obligation

9:00am (*Cantor*) and 11:00am (*Cantor*)

No 7:00pm Mass on New Year's Day.

Parish Office closed.

New Parishioners: If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with the parish. Registration forms are available at the main entrance of the Church or from the Rectory Office. Completed forms may be returned by dropping them in the Sunday collection basket, mailed, or brought to the Rectory. Please let us know if you are relocating or moving away by dropping a note or calling the Rectory Office at (202) 966-6288.

Thank you very much for your generosity to the weekly Collections at Mass. In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Ann's Church, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account.

Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: DC811. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

Year-End Contributions: As we come to the end of the year, please remember your generous donation to St. Ann's Church. God bless you for all you do to help the parish to grow and maintain our ministry. At the end of January, after we close out our books, the parish secretary will be sending your 2017 contributions total to you in the mail. Please note that the parish office keeps a record of your contributions as long as you indicate your name and address on any correspondence and envelope; cash in the basket without envelope identification does not allow us to include that amount in your annual contributions. Thank you.

Saint of the Week: John the Evangelist died c. 100 (*Feast December 27*). John and James were Galilean fisherman called from mending their nets to follow Jesus, who nicknamed them "sons of thunder." Along with Peter, the brothers were in Jesus' inner circle, witnessing his transfiguration and agony in the Gethsemane. John, always "the beloved disciple" in tradition, was given the care of Mary on Calvary. In later years, he was exiled on Patmos, and reportedly died at a great age in Ephesus. Authorship of the fourth Gospel, three New Testament letters and the Book of Revelation are attributed to John and his followers.



Many thanks to the Mother Butler Guild and the Boy Scout Troop 100 and all those who helped to decorate our church for Christmas.

St. Ann's Outreach to the Elderly and Infirm: We want to learn more about the needs of our members, especially the needs of our older parishioners. In addition to this important initiative, the Sovereign Military Order of Malta can facilitate the parish ministry for the sick and imprisoned. Kindly inform Msgr. Watkins at 202-966-6288 of parish members infirm, ill or imprisoned in order that St Ann's Church can extend the ministry of the parish and the Order on their behalf. The idea being that between Deacon Devaney and the cadre of Eucharistic ministers we can get to the homes of the infirm and ill, get a handle on potential maladies for Lourdes, and to be sure we enroll imprisoned parish members in the Malta Prison Ministry.

Men's Discernment Retreat: Friday, February 2 through Sunday, February 4, 2018: Men in their 20s to 40s who are considering a call to the priesthood are invited to attend a discernment retreat at Saint John Paul II Seminary led by priests of the Archdiocese of Washington. The weekend will offer time away from your daily routine and will provide an opportunity for prayer and reflection to examine God's call. There is no fee to attend. Registration is now open at www.dcpriest.org. Email vocations@adw.org.

Mother Teresa Vocation Society Annual Day of Recollection: On Saturday, January 20, 2018, from 9:30am to 2:00pm, Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, will lead a day of recollection at Annunciation Church in Washington, DC (3810 Massachusetts Ave., NW). The day will include Mass, a talk, Adoration, and an opportunity for Confession. Lunch will be served, and donations are welcomed. It is not required to be an MTVS member to attend this event! For more information, please visit www.dcpriest.org or contact Maris Moriarty at moriartym@adw.org or 202-636-9020.

Is God Calling You to the Diaconate? Come and See! The Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation of the Archdiocese of Washington will begin a new cycle of recruitment and preparation of men for the diaconate. The initial selection process for the next aspirancy class will be preceded with six opportunities to "Come and See" about the permanent diaconate. These events will be held at various locations around the Archdiocese in January-March 2018. To learn more about the specific dates and locations, please contact Deacon Desi Viktor, Director of Formation, at 301-853-4582 or at vikord@adw.org. The mailing address is: Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation, P.O. Box 29260, Washington, D.C. 20017. Additional information is available at adw.org/permanent-deacons.

National Geographic Exhibit on the Restoration of Jesus' Tomb: Journey to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Tomb of Christ in an immersive exhibit at the National Geographic Museum in Washington, DC. "The Edicule" documents the historic 2016 restoration of the Tomb of Jesus. Visitors will be able to walk through a 3-D digital rendering of the rotunda in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Tomb, including a view of the newly-revealed cave walls that have not been seen in centuries. Learn more about this extraordinary and special event at nationalgeographic.org/dc/exhibitions/tomb-of-christ.

National Symphony Orchestra at the Monastery: The National Symphony Orchestra will perform a free chamber music concert at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 7:00pm., as part of the NSO in Your Neighborhood concert series. NSO members Marissa Regni, violin; Rachel Young, cello; Paul Cigan, clarinet; and Lisa Emenheiser, piano will perform. A light reception follows. The Monastery is at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Free parking; near Brookland-CUA Metro/H6 bus toward Ft. Lincoln. Information: myfranciscan.org and 202-526-6800.

Nativities of the World: Nativities of the World, a collection of more than 150 mostly-handcrafted crèches from around the globe, is on exhibit at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America through Jan. 7 (daily, 9:am to 5:00pm). Many are created from local materials such as nuts, wood, straw and felt. See the universality of the Catholic faith through the eyes of different cultures. The Monastery is at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Free parking; near Brookland-CUA Metro/H6 bus toward Ft. Lincoln. Information: myfranciscan.org and 202-526-6800.

The Sunday TV Mass: Do you know someone who can't get to Mass? Since 1952, the Archdiocese of Washington has produced a weekly televised Mass for those who are homebound, broadcast from the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. It is a wonderful ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshiping community for the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

The Mass airs every Sunday at 10:30am on WDCW-50:

- No cable; Dish or DIRECTV subscribers: Channel 50
- Comcast: Channel 23 in Washington, DC and Montgomery County; Channel 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland
- RCN: Channel 15
- Verizon: Channel 3

Would you like to be on TV? Join the congregation at a taping of the TV Mass! Your presence at the TV Mass is a wonderful way to bring the Mass to those who are homebound. Two Masses are taped on the same evening, from 7:30 to 8:45pm in the Crypt Church of the Basilica at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 400 Michigan Ave., NE in Washington, DC. Come for one Mass or stay for both! To receive the Celebrate and TV Mass newsletter, please email communications@adw.org with your mailing address.

We welcome all of our children to Mass and invite our parents to use the small "Crying Room" near the vestibule of the church when your child needs some fresh air. We leave the good judgement to the parents to assist their children when they may need to step out for a moment. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

*Merry Christmas
and
a Happy New Year
to all.*