

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 11, 2022

Announced Masses

December 10th, Saturday,

4 PM Dominik Krzysik by Anna & Ron Meyer

Sunday, Third Sunday Advent, December 11th,

9:00AM Thomas Hickey by Roseann C. Paolini

11:15AM Frank S. Caskey by Elaine & Mike Foote

Monday, December 12th,

9:00 AM Franz Maier by Ron & Anna Meyer

Tuesday, December 13th,

9:00 AM Andrew Donnadio (L) by Barbara & John Donnadio

Wednesday, December 14th,

9:00 AM NO MASS

Thursday, December 15th,

9:00 AM Linda Cervelli (L) by Fr RJB

Friday, December 16th,

9:00 AM The Donnadio Grandchildren by Barbara & John Donnadio

Saturday, December 17th,

4:00 PM Glen Swendsen by Ben & Kathleen Johnson

5:15 PM Christmas Pageant at Church

Sunday, Third Sunday of Advent, December 18th

9 AM Glenn Joergle by Elisa Jorgle

11:15 AM John Morsut by Barbara & John Donnadio

CANDLES for the Month of DECEMBER

For Andrew Kisela by Lucille Kisela

200 Club

#43 Karen & Nick Speranza

THE NEW MASS BOOK FOR 2023 IS OPEN

Special date that you would like to remember or have Mass said for? Reserve it now!

The perfect prayer is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Why not offer this most special prayer to someone living who is in need of special graces, or those who are deceased in need of special mercy. (Please fill out the form kept at the back of the Church and return it by Mail, or put it in the collection basket.) The donation is \$15 for each Mass.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Jeanine Poth, Barbara & Vinny Donnelly and Mary Ann, Melita Braun, Betty Ford, Jane Fay, Abigail, David, Jennifer, Shane Kelsey, Anne Suppa, Michele Griesbaum, Lisa Donohue, James Valenti, Kathleen Quinn, Vincent Russo, Aliya Rachlin, Tara Byrne, Bob Einterz, Andrea Fedoruk, Nicky Castagna, Michael and Matthew Mclean, and Samantha. For Our Military Personnel: Vaughn Schlott, Ana Lucia Teran-Stasilli, Arianar Severf, Larry Weiss, Martin Kamen, Peggy Connolly, Mary Ann, Kimberly Chatfield, Isabella Marchese, Ira Glickler, Rose Infantino, Cathy Gerrard, Linda Bozza, Stephanie Freer Greyden Freer, Karen Fullone, Carol Scott, Eileen Hoynes Hope Traver, Louise Smith, Stephen Scognamiglio, Pam Kocher, Gabriella Francesca Maria Paolini, Janice Mutia, Rose Ann Donnadio, Steven & Kelly Spencer, Pastor Linda Bohs, Jeanne Boyar Arniery, Lee VanSaaders, , Grace Garufi, Joe Garufi, Cheryl Novak, Melaina Elms, Neil R. Stasilli III, Michael Jaszczak and Anthony Horecky.

CONTACT THE RECTORY FOR YOUR LOVED ONES NAMES TO BE ADDED IN PRAYER LIST

The Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle: be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

MEN'S GROUP MEETING

Thursday, December 22nd, 6:00pm Parish Hall

DECORATING HELP NEEDED

Please join us in decorating the church after the 11:15am Mass on Sunday, December 18th

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, December 13, Parish Hall—1pm to 6pm
Call 1-800 RED-CROSS for an appointment

PARISH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Saturday, December 17 at 5:15pm in the Church:

Candlelight service with Caroling and Manger Scene

At 6:00pm join us for a visit with Santa at the Parish Hall

Food will be served by our very own Knights of Columbus

TODAY'S READINGS (by Fr. RJB)

FIRST READING

In our first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah we see the prophet's understanding of the blessings the Messiah will bring to our world. In nature, all the arid lands will be lush with growth, and there: will be a transformation of the infirm. They will be restored to wholeness: "strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak...the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then the lame will leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing." What a blessing for us all, and this same theme is continued in our gospel today.

SECOND READING (limited space)

In our second reading from St. James' letter, we are encouraged to be patient while waiting for the Lord's second coming! No grumbling or nitpicking! Patience!

THE GOSPEL

The section of the Gospel from St. Matthew focuses on the question of whether Jesus is the Messiah. In fact, John the Baptist's disciples go to Jesus and ask him this direct question: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus responds by saying observe what I do: "the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. In other words the prophecy of Isaiah in our first reading was fulfilled in the ministry of Jesus. He transformed the broken and restored them to wholeness, as a sign of the Kingdom now with them in the person of Jesus, the Son of God. Do we see Jesus in this way? Do we ask him for healing? Has he given us a new beginning by also forgiving our sins so we can start anew? Has his teachings added meaning to our lives?

SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 4th, \$1,910.00

Christmas Flower Collection, \$ 547.00

THE ANGEL GIVING TREE

The giving tree is located in the vestibule of the church.

Please take one (or more) of the angel tags home and purchase an appropriate gift suitable to the age and needs of the child on the tag. Please bring the wrapped gift with the affixed angel tag on the outside, and return it to the Church by Thursday, December 15th. Thank you for your generosity!

CONFESSION MONDAY IS NOW

CONFESSION WEDNESDAY IN YULAN

Confessions will be heard on Wednesday Dec 21st after morning Mass and from 4 to 6:00pm in the Church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION @ OUR CHURCH

Our religious education program began on Thursday, November 17th. Classes are held from 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Parish Center. The grades being taught are from 2nd to 9th grade. If there are children needing to receive their sacraments, please contact Anna Meyer, our Coordinator.

I WAS JUST THINKING AS I WAS DOING THE...

By Fr. Richard J. Bretone

I was just thinking as I was doing the exegesis for our readings today about the subtle difference between wholeness and holiness. This would be a good time to share a reflection for the Christmas Season on both of these gifts in our lives.

Wholeness and holiness are both gifts given us by our God. The fact that many things still work on our bodies, and thus is truly a gift from God! We give thanks for all our blessings, each and every day! When things do breakdown we go to the doctor and see what he or she can do, but we realize that his or her hands are just an instrument of the larger healing hands of Jesus! We expect healing, however, if the healing is not complete or perfect, this is when our second gift, holiness, comes into play.

Holiness has many definitions and impressions. One definition that has been used by the church is: "set apart for service." The holy person has a mission, and often that mission calls the person away from a traditional lifestyle to serve God in a unique way. This has been the reason behind religious orders—people in the church who vow to live a certain Christian vocation together in community, like the Franciscans who staffed our own church some time ago.

However, holiness also has an impression behind it. When I was a novice with the Jesuits, our novice-master was the "ideal" of holiness: soft-spoken, gentle, humble and other-worldly (he owned outfits). Yet, he was almost too perfect, too centered and hard to relate to. True holiness has his qualities, but it also has passion and righteous indignation and a fire to bring about the Kingdom! It has some of John the Baptist with it.

However, the great feature of holiness is acceptance of all that is, working to make what is better and leaving the result to God! This is what we do as Christians; it all starts with our prayer, and the perfect prayer is the Eucharist. Let us encourage our family members to join us at Mass this Christmas, so that we can experience God's holiness & ours