

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020



*A Catholic Community...  
Our Lady Queen of Peace  
& St. Thomas More*

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**  
601 Edgewood Ave. Rochester, NY 14618  
585-244-3010 - email: rourlady@dor.org

**Mass Times (as of 8/15/20)**  
Monday & Wednesday: 7:00 a.m.  
Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
Holy Days of Obligation: as printed in bulletin

**Office Hours**  
OLQP Wednesday 1:00-4:00 for drop-ins  
(church open for prayer)  
STM Monday 8:00-11:00 for drop ins  
(church open for prayer)  
Other times - call first to be sure we're here.  
[www.olqpstm.com](http://www.olqpstm.com)  
Confessions by appointment only

**St. Thomas More**  
2617 East Avenue - Rochester, NY 14610  
585-381-4200 - email: stm@dor.org

**Mass Times (as of 8/15/20)**  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday 11:00 a.m.  
Holy Days of Obligation: as printed in bulletin

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents are to notify a parish office soon after they know they are expecting. A pre-baptismal program is required.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)**

Adults seeking full initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, or those wishing to be in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church are asked to contact a parish office for more information.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

By appointment only. Call the office to schedule.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Arrangements must be made at least six months, preferably a year, in advance of the desired date. A marriage preparation program is required.

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

This Sacrament is available for individuals upon request and communal celebrations are periodically scheduled.

**Ministry to the Sick**

Please call a parish office concerning the needs of the sick, hospitalized or shut-ins. Those unable to attend Mass may have Communion brought to them.

**Prayer Network**

For prayer support in time of need, call Ann Parsons at 244-0477 or Gerri Foes at 944-4888 or gfprayer@gmail.com

Available at both parishes:

Available at OLQP



Handicap Access



Hearing Loop Access



Upon Request  
Low Gluten Hosts



Interpreter for the hearing impaired.

December 20, 2020



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
OF ADVENT

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:30-31

# Welcome...

We graciously welcome all new parishioners and visitors to our community. To register please fill out a "request card" available at church entrances. Please drop it in the collection basket or at the office. A member of our pastoral staff will contact you to complete your registration.

## Mission Statement

*The parishes of Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Thomas More are Roman Catholic Communities that worship and live in faith. Nourished by the Sacraments, Scripture, and a diversity of individual gifts, we understand that our mission comes from Jesus Christ who calls us to teach, to preach, to serve those in need, and to be a presence of Christ in the world.*

## Mass Schedule

**Monday, December 21 St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor of the church**

**Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 Lk 1:39-45**

*OLQP* 7:00 AM †Mary Adams - Olive & Tom Striffolino

**Tuesday, December 22**

**1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1,4-7,8abcd Lk 1:46-56**

*STM* 8:00 AM †Terry Dryer - Michele Dryer

*ONLINE MASS* Ralph, Linda, Rose & Francesca Viola - Family

**Wednesday, December 23 St. John of Kanty, priest**

**Mal 3:1-4,23-24 Ps 25:4bc-5ab,8-10,14 Lk 1:57-66**

*OLQP* 7:00 AM †Patrick Byrne - Family

**Thursday, December 24 Vigil of Christmas**

**Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-3,11-13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-4**

*OLQP* 4:00 PM †Marie Byrne - Family

7:00 PM †Harriet & Rufus Dyer

*STM* 3:00 PM People of the Parish

6:00 PM †Dr. Robert M. Lawrence & John C. Lawrence -  
Dr. Ruth Lawrence & Family

10:00 PM People of the Parish

**Friday, December 25 Christmas Day**

**Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18**

*OLQP* 9:00 AM †Ann Reinhardt - Family

*STM* 11:00 AM †Frank & Genevieve Palermo - Marty & Mary  
Jane Rimmele

**Saturday, December 26 ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR**

**Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd,4,6-8b,16bc,17 Mt 10:17-22**

*OLQP* 4:30 PM †Members of the Haubner & Murphy Families

*STM* 4:30 PM †Mancuso, Loiacano & Sparacino Families -  
Richard & Mary Ann Loiacano

**Sunday, December 27 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,  
MARY, AND JOSEPH**

**Gen 15:1-6;21:1-3 Ps 105:1-6,8-9 Heb 11:8,11-12,17-19**

**Lk 2:22-40**

*OLQP* 9:00 AM †LeRoy Welkley

*STM* 11:00 AM †Mary Ellen Edwards - Family



**Sanctuary Lamp Intention this week at OLQP is in  
Memory of: Ralph, Linda, Francesca, & Rose Viola**



### Prayers Requested:

*Please pray for the individuals who have requested our prayers: Patrick Brennan, Mary Jean & Carmine Castellano, Christine Barry Comito, Bud Cottier, Mary Ann Fischer, Louise Foxenburgh, Mary Helen Hiller, Ginger Ierardi, Steven Kistner, Barbara Labroi, Rachael M., Lourdes May, Cecile McDonald, Cathy Miccia, Janice Milliman, Kelly Farrell Murphy, Dolly Nolan, Quinn Oliphant, Bob O'Neill, Phillip Pinto, Sheilah Quigley, Marty Rimmele, Marion Robinson, Paul Speranza, Tom & Kathleen Sullivan, Barb Tindale, and Phillipa Wilson.*



## Living in the Spirit



The date when our bulletins are due for publication varies around holidays and holydays. Today, as I write for the bulletin to be distributed on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we are exactly two weeks from Christmas Eve. Much can happen over a period of two weeks. No doubt, many will be making their final preparations for Christmas: putting up the Christmas trees, decorating, baking, gift wrapping, or ordering online that final gift and hoping it arrives on time – all in an effort to try and keep our routines and activities as normal as possible – all for the sake of the children and perhaps our own stability and mental health. There is also no doubt that the challenges of the pandemic have brought other issues to consider: When and where will we meet? How many family members will gather? Will all wear masks? Can we social distance? Will our area remain in the Orange Zone or will we be classified as Red? Perhaps there is also the question of will we go to church? Will we watch Mass online? Or will the reason for this season be pushed to the back of our mind?

In the midst of life's darkness there is a light that shines – the Light of Christ. I personally believe that this year Christmas will not be the same for any of us. But I even more strongly believe that our faith in Christ Jesus who reveals God's love for us has the power to transform us and enable us to build our lives anew. This Love that came down – the "Divine Being," in the words of St. Isaac Syrian, "took upon himself the seal of our humanity, in order for humanity to be decorated by the seal of Divinity" - calls us, fills our hearts with faith, gives us new vision, and enables each and everyone of us to bring the Light of Christ to everyone we meet.

As we prepare to celebrate the feast of God's greatest gift to us, I share parts of *A Christmas Blessing* from Joyce Rupp:

May there be harmony in all your relationships. May sharp words, envious thoughts and hostile feelings be dissolved.

May you give and receive love generously. May this love echo in your heart like the joy of church bells on a clear December day.

May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ. May the honor given the Babe of Bethlehem be that which you extend to every guest who enters your presence.

May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul. May it be a foundation of courage for you when times of distress occupy your inner land.

May you daily open the gift of your life and be grateful for the hidden treasures it contains.

May you keep your eye on the star within you and trust this Luminescent Presence to guide and direct you each day.

May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit the One who offers you peace. May you bring this peace into the world.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas,  
Margaret



In this year, unlike any other, we struggle to find words to express our gratefulness for your love, support and care for the well-being of our parish communities and for us as a staff. In spite of it all, we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and embrace the message of hope which He brings. May we all cling to the Good News of the birth of our Savior and may He sustain us as we navigate our world today.

We wish you all a Very Blessed Christmas.

~Fr. Hart, Margaret and the Staff of OLQP/STM

**Young Adult Zoom Gatherings - Save the Date**

Beginning the New Year with Divine Freedom: A Look at the Life of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador  
Wednesday, January 13 from 7-8:15pm

Please let Meghan know if you plan to attend and she will send you the zoom link. [meghan.robinson@dor.org](mailto:meghan.robinson@dor.org)

**Thank You** from St. Andrews Food Cupboard

Dear Friends,  
A mighty Thank You for all your extraordinary efforts for this food collection and financial gifts. We are sincerely grateful for all the wonderful food and gifts to us. Please extend our thanks to so many who helped us out.



Margaret Oberst  
ST. Andrew's Food Cupboard

Jesus, may your example of love instruct us in how we are to live together, uplifting the oppressed, calling for justice, and seeing each life as precious and worth defending.

**1st Eucharist Preparation**



First Eucharist Prep sessions will be starting in March. If you have not already registered for First Eucharist please contact Jennifer as soon as possible. If you participated in First Reconciliation preparation this past fall, I will presume you are continuing in First Eucharist preparation unless you have told me differently.

Contact Jennifer Abdalla at [jennifer.abdalla@dor.org](mailto:jennifer.abdalla@dor.org)

Inscription services are scheduled to be held on **February 21, 2021**  
First Eucharist is scheduled to be celebrated on **May 2, 2021**

**Lector assignments for next weekend 12/26-27**

OLQP 4:30 - Caroline Thirukumaran  
9:00 - Rob Hutter  
STM 4:30 - MaryAgnes McAvoy  
11:00 - Dennis Regan

**Lector assignments for Christmas Masses**

OLQP 4:00pm - Caroline Thirukumaran  
7:00pm - Margot Lutz  
9:00am - Sr. Cathy Solan  
STM 3:00pm - Annette Bailey  
6:00pm - Bill Shelly  
10:00pm - Jerry Frantz  
11:00am - Anne Wolff

**2020 Christmas Mass Schedule for the Brighton Region Churches**

**St. Thomas More Church**

Christmas Eve: 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 10:00pm  
Christmas Day: 10:00am

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Church**

Christmas Eve: 4:00pm, 7:00pm  
Christmas Day: 9:00am



**Our Lady of Lourdes Church**

Corner Rhinecliff and Imperial Drive  
Christmas Eve: 5:00pm, 10:00pm  
Christmas Day: 10:30am

**St. Anne Church**

1600 Mt. Hope Ave  
Christmas Eve: 4:00pm, Midnight  
Christmas Day: 9:00am

Reservations required for all Masses  
Go to website: [olqpstm.com](http://olqpstm.com)

Reservations required for all Masses  
Go to website: [ourladyoflourdessaintanne.org](http://ourladyoflourdessaintanne.org)

## Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

**1st Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16**

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?' " "It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.'" **The Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29****R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever;  
through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness.  
For you have said, "My kindness is established forever";  
in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one,  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
Forever will I confirm your posterity  
and establish your throne for all generations."

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

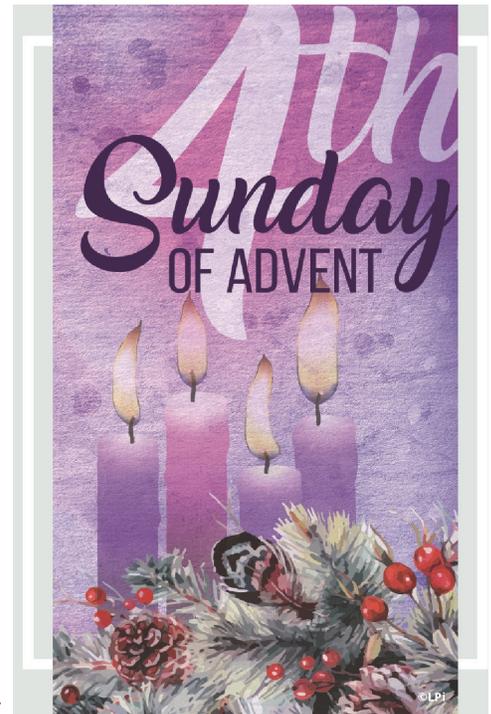
"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.'  
Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him,  
and my covenant with him stands firm."

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.****2nd Reading Romans 16:25-27**

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen. **The Word of the Lord**

**Gospel Luke 1:26-38**

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. **The Gospel of the Lord**

**REFLECT****FIRST READING**

Today's reading from Second Samuel narrates the context in which God establishes his covenantal promise to King David around the year 1000 B.C. In the birth of Jesus, God fulfills his covenant with David. What does this teach us about the idea of "salvation history?"

**SECOND READING**

Paul concludes his letter to the Romans with a hymn of praise to God for the long-awaited revelation that all are saved and justified through faith in Christ. In what ways are you praising God during this season of Advent?

**GOSPEL READING**

Today's Gospel reading records the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary of the upcoming birth of Christ. Mary's acceptance of God's will for her life ("May it be done to me according to your word.") models for all of us unconditional faith. How can we encourage others to embrace such faith?

**Staff**

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Scott Nobes, Maintenance

**Corner**

*"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" – Luke 1:28*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

**Altar flowers at OLQP & STM**

There are sign-up sheets at the church entrances for those wishing to donate flowers to decorate the altar during January through June. This is for anyone who would care to arrange their own or purchase from a florist in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion (anniversary, wedding etc.) You can also call Robin at 244-3010 to sign up. Thanks so much.

### **Due to early submission for bulletin publication the Sacrificial Giving amounts are unavailable this week.**

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021

Thank you for sharing your gift of treasure. May the Lord bless you for your generosity.

Please contact Mary Kase at 381-4200 x 260 if you would like to sign up for electronic funds transfer (EFT.) Please contact Mary Kase at 381-4200 x 262 or mary.kase@dor.org **BEFORE** considering making a stock transfer for your donation to your parish..

**Catholic Schools in Area:**

**Seton Catholic School**  
Grades Pre-K-6  
Mrs. Patty Selig, Principal  
473-6604



**St. Louis School**  
Grades Pre-K-5  
Mrs. Fran Barr, Principal  
586-5200

