



# PRINCE *of* PEACE

## CATHOLIC PARISH

5 Worcester Road (P.O. Box 305) Princeton, MA 01541 | Office hours Mon.-Wed. 9:00 am-2:00 pm | (978) 464-2871

### MEETINGS

#### Baptism

Instruction is required for all parents seeking baptism of their child. Please contact the Rectory.

#### Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick that we may keep them in prayer. We would also like to bring the Eucharist to those who cannot celebrate Mass with us in church.

#### Confidential Prayer Line

To add intentions call Ellen Calamari at 978-660-3818 or the Rectory at 978-464-2871.

#### Marriage

Interviews, instruction and Pre-Cana are required. Please contact the Rectory at least one year in advance.

#### Programs

- Adult Bible Study

Please contact the Rectory for class schedule.

- Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Wednesdays at 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

- Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday -4:00-4:30 pm at the church or by appointment.

### Rev. H. Edward Chalmers, Pastor

#### STAFF

Parish Secretary, Paula Greeley

Religious Education Coordinator, Sharon Bushway

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Development Committee  
978-464-2871

Finance Council  
Chairperson: Gerald Gates (978) 464-5636

Education Committee  
(978) 464-2871

Liturgical Committee  
(978) 464-2871

Evangelization & Outreach Committee  
(978) 464-2871

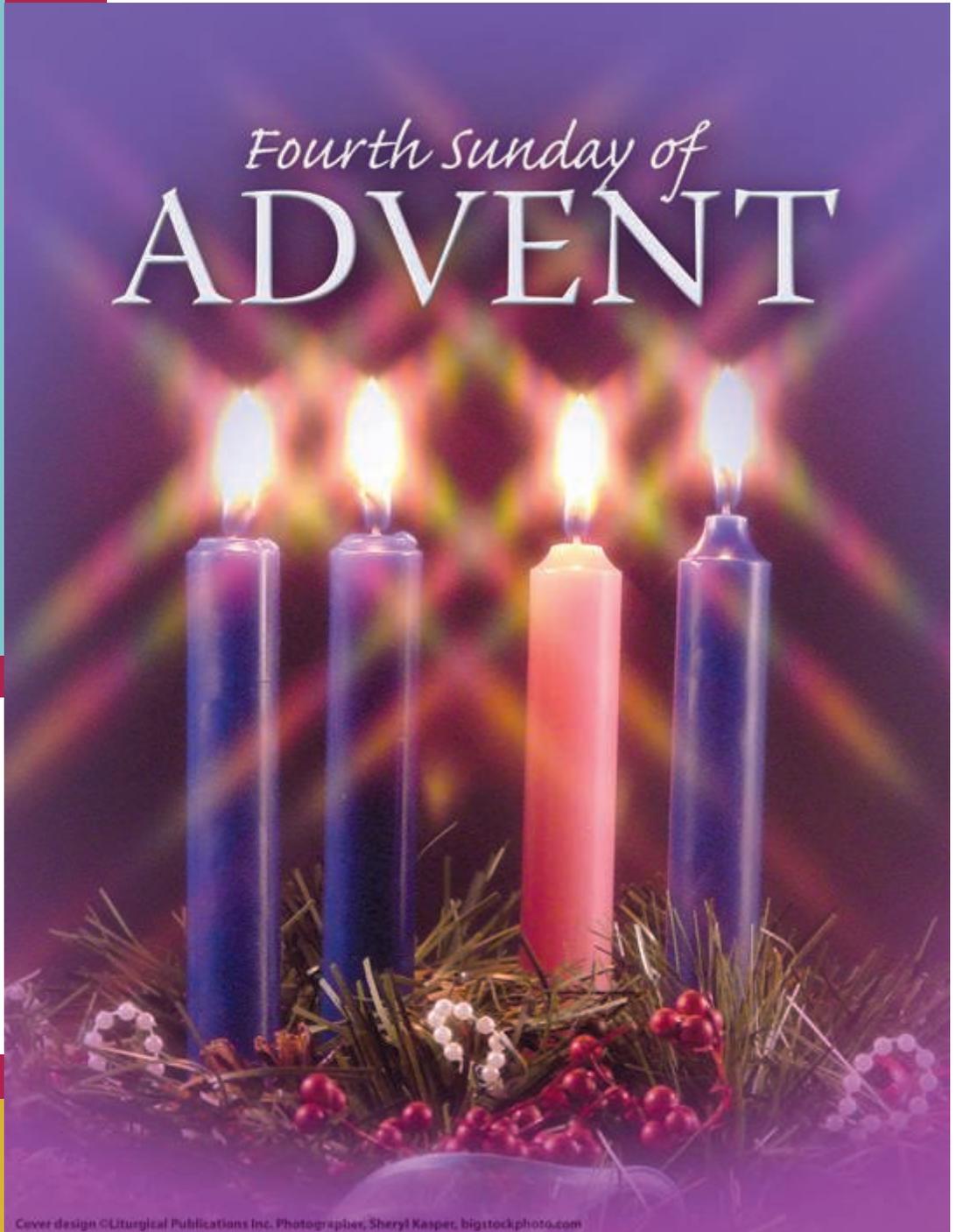
### SCHEDULE/MASSES

Mon—Wed, Friday, ..... 8:30 am

Saturday ..... 4:30 pm

Sunday ..... 8:30 & 10:30 am

Holy Days/Feast Day 8:30 am & 7:00 pm



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**Your talents are welcome. We encourage you to call a ministry chairperson to find out more about our on-going programs.**

*Mass Intentions for the Week*



Saturday, December 21st  
 4:00-4:30 PM Confessions  
 4:30 PM For the Parish and its Parishioners  
 Sunday, December 22nd  
 8:30 AM Leslie and James Greeley, requested by their Family  
 10:30 AM For the Newly Confirmed  
 Monday, December 23rd  
 8:30 AM Unrequested  
**7:00-8:00 PM Christmas Confessions**  
 Tuesday, December 24th **Christmas Eve**  
 4:30 PM **Children's Christmas Liturgy**  
 9:45 PM **Christmas Carols**  
 10:00 PM **Christmas Mass**  
 Wednesday, December 25th **Christmas Day**  
 10:30 AM **Christmas Day Liturgy**  
 Friday, December 27th  
 8:30 AM For the Holy Souls  
 Saturday, December 28th  
 4:00-4:30 PM Confessions  
 4:30 PM Unrequested  
 Sunday, December 29th  
 8:30 AM For the Parish and its Parishioners  
 10:30 AM Unrequested

**CHRISTMAS PRELUDE:** Please join the Children's Choir at 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve or the Adult Choir at 9:30 pm Christmas Eve for a prelude program of Christmas Songs.

**Congratulations to our newly confirmed:**



*Frederick John Anthony Curtis  
 Penelope Mae Dymphna Doyle  
 Thomas John John Farr  
 Seamus Peter Michael Kelly  
 John Francis John King  
 Delainey Rose Frances Witt*

The newly confirmed will take part in a **Rite of Reception** here at Prince of Peace during the **10:30 am Mass** this Sunday, December 22nd.



**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE**

*In last week's bulletin, we missed our opportunity to thank Denis Coughlin for the beautiful Christmas music he provided throughout our Open House. His music definitely brought the Christmas spirit alive, and made the night even more enjoyable for everyone there. Thank you again Denis!*

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 22, 2019

Dear Friends,

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, may we reflect upon the personal need that we have to pray to our loving God for perseverance and strength. We have been given a treasured gift of faith to lead us to God. Through prayer, worship, and acts of charity, we can develop our faith; helping us to believe in the Holy Trinity's sacred presence among us. For most folks, the month of December is a very special time that allows one to reflect upon the immensity of God's love, and the opportunity we have to accept God's unconditional and self-sacrificing love.

Our gospel reading from Matthew relates the story of St. Joseph's "intention" to divorce Mary quietly after finding out that she was with child. When told by "the angel of the Lord" that Mary had conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, Joseph graciously "took his wife into his home." St. Joseph trusted in the words of the angel. He believed with strong faith that God would protect them as they helped Jesus to prepare to become the savior of the world.

May the Christmas story inspire us to be grateful to God the Father for the gift of His Son, Jesus, who humbly came into this world to save us from our sins. Let us continue to make the changes in our lives that bring us to God. Like St. Joseph, may we believe that God will protect us through "the rigors of life" that we encounter often.

Fr. Ed



**Prince of Peace Legacy of Hope Update:**

Thanks to the generosity of 39 families, our parish is only \$24,077 away from reaching our goal of \$189,627. If you have not yet had the chance to pledge to this very important campaign, please consider doing so as soon as possible. Thank you.

**FINANCE REPORT**

The collection for the weekend of December 14-15, 2019, was as follows:

Monthly	\$ 400.00
Make-up envelopes	\$ 440.00
Advanced	\$ 190.00
Maintenance	\$ 85.00
Energy	\$ 190.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 295.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 50.00
Christmas	\$ 205.00
Immaculate Conc.	\$ 5.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 5.00
Regular collection	<u>\$1,518.00</u>
Total Collection:	<u>\$3,383.00</u>

# Good News!

December 22, 2019  
Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)  
Is 7:10-14 ; Rom 1:1-7 ; Mt 1:18-24

The Incarnation means that God is one of us. He is made of our flesh and blood; he laughs, sings, and loves people. Though we believe he is God, he is still one of us. We can choose him to be on our team, trusting that he will play to win.

When identifying ourselves, we normally tell others what we do. Societies like the one to which Jesus belonged usually identified themselves by tracing ancestry. As Isaiah tells us today, Jesus belonged to the house of David. Paul says that he was of David "according to the flesh" (Romans 1:3). The Gospel identifies Joseph as a "son of David" (Matthew 1:20). Since Jesus was considered Joseph's legal son, he also was a "son of David." Joseph is told that the child will be called Emmanuel, which means "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). Thus, Incarnation means God is with us in a unique way in this man who is one of us. The Incarnation also gives extraordinary dignity to material creation, of which we are all a part and of which he is a part as well, for he is one of us. In other words, Emmanuel (God with us) is a child of earth.

Like Joseph, we cannot fully comprehend what has happened. We can only stand with him in awe as this wondrous mystery unfolds before us. As we await Christmas, we wait for him to appear. When he comes, we will be amazed to see that he is really one of us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

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*My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,*

*Christmas brings joy to the world and joy to our hearts as we contemplate and celebrate Christ's birth at Bethlehem.*

*We can readily appreciate Mary's joy as she gazed on the beauty, mystery and wonder of her newborn Son. It is a joy all mothers experience and one fathers and families share as they welcome and appreciate the gift of new life.*

*Mary's joy was deepened by the wondrous knowledge that the Child she bore was also God's Eternal Son who, through her, took on a human nature to be with us and to save us. That presence brought joy to a cold and drafty cave where Mary and Joseph took shelter with animals. Christ's presence brings joy to us no matter what our circumstances.*

*We marvel not only that God's Son took on our human nature, but that we, through the baptism Jesus instituted, also gain a share in God's divine life. Jesus is God's son by nature. Through baptism we become God's children by adoption. And just as God was truly in Mary's arms in the Infant Jesus, so too, though in a different way, God is with us in our souls through baptism. Our God is not distant, indifferent or detached from our lives. He is with us. He is Emmanuel.*

*The Christmas Season begins with the birth of Christ and ends with the Feast of His baptism. The Season with all its beautiful liturgies, traditions and customs will quickly pass. However, for those who have become God's adopted sons and daughters through baptism and who remain in His grace, God does not pass from us. We have His presence, strength and peace with us always. Like Mary and Joseph we will face uncertainties, disappointments and unexpected trials, but we do not face them alone. We are aided by a strength greater than our own.*

*May the enduring presence of Christ to you and all the baptized extend the joy of Christmas and the blessings of God throughout the New Year and all of life.*

*With every prayerful best wish, I remain*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

*Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester*

Thank you to all who contributed so generously to the **Giving Tree**. Christmas for the Veterans, the boys at Nazareth Home and the Seminarians will be even more joyful thanks to your thoughtfulness!

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

Traditionally, funds for Christmas Flowers have been donated as a memorial for friends and relatives, or as a family gift. If anyone wishes to make an offering in memory of a loved one or as a gift, please fill out the form below and put it in the collection basket or mail it in.

Name/s of those remembered: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name (if you wish): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_