
Third Sunday of Advent

REFLECTION

Through this season of advent we are called to prepare for the Lord's coming by repenting of our sins, removing the obstacles that make it difficult for us to recognize his approach, and remaining ever watchful for his arrival. But today we rejoice (in Latin, *gaudete*) because we focus on the knowledge that the One whom we await come to embrace us, transform us, and redeem us. Gathered together in joy, we look forward, as always, to his coming.

FINANCES

<i>Last Week's Offertory</i>	\$3,127.00
<i>Last Week's Online Contributions</i>	700.00
<i>Archdiocesan</i>	1,276.00
<i>Other</i>	1,758.00

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Dec 23	4:00pm	J&J McAllister
Dec 24	8:30am	Cress Family
	11:00am	D Dudziec

CHRISTMAS LECTOR SCHEDULE

Dec 24	4:00pm	M Clements
Dec 25	8:30am	Cress Family
	11:00am	R Stancil

Mass Intention Requests

Please call or email the Parish Office to request a Mass Intention. The usual stipend is \$10 and Mass cards signed by Fr. John are available.

2024 'WARM Program @ Camp Maria

Dec 31 – Jan 7 *Volunteers Needed!*

WARM is a winter emergency sheltering program that relies on volunteers in the community to provide two meals and warm beds during the winter months. St John's is partnering with Camp Maria Retreat Center to support WARM Dec. 31 – Jan 7. **Volunteers are sought for meals and monitoring.** To learn more or volunteer, visit <https://sugeni.us/4Nxt>, or contact: Ann Kovalcik at Camp Maria Retreat Center director@campmaria.org 301-475-8330 or Mary McGlinn at (240)298-7645 or Walt Gardiner at (703)304-6264

Pick up your 2024 Calendar at the Doors of the Church. These calendars are compliments of Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home.

SOMD MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS - MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 7:00PM - IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH, Lexington Park. Inviting all to lay aside the busyness of the Advent season and come be renewed, refreshed, healed by Our Lord. In the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament, inviting all to come, lay it all before Jesus and receive healing prayer. Come with expectant faith. Confessions begin at 6:30PM.



Father Andrew White, S.J. School

"Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, Living Our Faith"

Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections:

From all of us at Father Andrew White School, we would like to extend our heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas. We are grateful for your support and prayers!

Father Andrew White's open registration for new families starts on February 1, 2024. Please consider the gift of Catholic education for your loved one.

Father Andrew White is accepting applications for substitute teachers. For more information, please contact office@fatherandrewwhite.org.

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage will be celebrated this year at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Most Reverend Evelio Menjivar-Ayala will be the main celebrant. Please email or call the Parish office if you would like to register. The deadline to register is Thursday, January 25, 2024.

Camp Maria Retreat Center Updating Distribution Lists Free Ornament if you provide contact information

We are in the process of updating our database so that we can communicate our events and updates more effectively. A free Camp Maria ornament to hang on the tree this year will be sent to anyone that provides updated contact info. Please visit campmaria.org, click the button, and enter your contact information.

SUNDAY December 17, 2023 & ITS VIGIL

Mass Intentions

Sat Dec 16	4:00pm	T.W. Bell
Sun Dec 17	8:30am	Graham Huestis
	11:00am	Our Lady's Parishioners
Tue Dec 19	8:00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed Dec 20	8:00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thu Dec 21	8:00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Fri Dec 22	8:00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sat Dec 23	4:00pm	Lillian Kidd Cowan & Dr. John F. Fenwick
Sun Dec 24	8:30am	Our Lady's Parishioners
	11:00am	Loyd Stancil
	4:00pm	Rev. Bill Berry

Please, Pray for the Intentions of Our Sick

Amy Stehlin, Mary Edna Bowles, Pat Riegel, Alex Duvall, Betty Leresche, Mary Alberta Goddard, Jerry Pope, John Rossi, Jeannie Pichee, Danny Pichee, Alex Datzuk, Margaret Campion, Johanna Brubacher Malone, Mary Anne Groat, Bob Greenwell, Mary Clements, Virginia Fenwick Diehm, Alvin Kragh, Steve Himes, Theresa Clements, Marian Wright, Bill Benson, Rose Marie Benson, JoEllen Marek, Melissa Higgs Trossbach, Paul Woodburn, Jr., Eleanor Ripple, Jacqueline Muir Westlein, Patty Van Ryswick, John Allum-Poon, Evelyn Ryce, Teresa Fenwick, Claudia Fenwick, Cathy Norris, Ricky Burroughs, Anna Daugherty, Ben DeWeese, Dona Hamlet, Bob Russell, Margaret Breakfield, Irene Dixon, Pat Bateman, Sarah Milburn, Agnes Higgs, James Trossbach, Edith McFadden, Beth Higgs, Peter Van Ryswick, Charles Mills, Alice Holly, Cecelia Knott, Ray Harding, Jr., Rose Spalding, Trish McWilliams Guy, Christina Howe, Jean Bowles Wathen, Jody Van Ryswick

Charitable Outreach Committee

Our Lady's Church is collecting donations of food for St. Aloysius' food pantry. Please bring non-perishable healthy and nutritious foods (no glass jars please) to the church and place your contributions by the Sacred Heart statue. For more information on how you can help and what types of food they prefer, please visit, <https://saintaloyuschurch.org/food-pantry>. With your support they are able to sponsor a **Food Give Away Day** on the third Saturday of the month.

SHARE THE WARMTH COAT DRIVE – The Charitable Outreach Committee will be collecting any warm clothing and accessories, such as coats, gloves, socks, etc. to provide for those who are in need of warmth on a cold day. Please leave items next to the Sacred Heart Statue. Feel free to contact John 240-528-0966 for additional information.

St. Aloysius Christmas Dinner

St. Aloysius Church will host a community Christmas dinner for those in need on Christmas Day. Dinner will be from 1pm to 4pm in the Parish Hall located at 22800 Washington St, Leonardtown, MD 20650. All are welcome! Please help spread the word and celebrate with us the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! If you would like to volunteer either in preparation or during the event itself, please sign up for a volunteer position using the sign-up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48ABAF23AAFF2-44708108-staloyusius>

Grieving with Great Hope

5-week small group workshop to help people grieving the loss of a loved one. Bereavement Workshop
Dates in 2024: Sundays 3-5pm: 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4. Contact: Jennifer Bicknell (301-475-8064 x11) or jbicknell@saintaloyusiuschurch.org

Christmas Flower Remembrances

Christmas flower envelopes are in the pews and at the doors of the church. This is a beautiful way to remember our deceased loved ones during this Holy Season. *Return the completed envelopes by Dec. 17.*



Christmas Decorating

We will decorate the church for Christmas on December 17, following the 11:00am Mass. Please help us decorate and bring a dish to share if you are able.

Visit of Cardinal Wilton Gregory: The Cardinal will celebrate Mass with us on **Sunday, December 31st at 11:00.** We hope many parishioners will come out to give him a warm Southern Maryland welcome on his first visit to our church!

CHRISTMAS & SOLEMNITY OF MARY

MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2023

❖ 4:00pm Vigil of Christmas

Note that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. We are having our regularly scheduled Masses on Sunday morning. Sunday and Christmas are separate Mass obligations. One Mass must be attended for each obligation.

Christmas, December 25, 2023

❖ 8:30am Christmas Mass

❖ 11:00am Christmas Mass

Mary, Mother of God, January 1, 2024

❖ 10:00am Mass



Eucharistic Adoration with Confessions at Our Lady's Church – Wednesdays 8:30-9:30am