

# SAVE



“She will bear a son and  
you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his  
people from their sins.”

MATTHEW 1:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## December 18, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Saint Andrew Parish*  
*395 Anton Street, Bridgeport, CT*  
*203-374-6171*  
[standrewparish@optimum.net](mailto:standrewparish@optimum.net)

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Milan Dimic, Pastor  
Rev. Hyginus Agu  
Rev. Msgr. Matthew Bernelli, in residence  
Jeannie Bisson, Pastoral Associate  
Sandra Kluun, Faith Formation Coordinator K thru 5  
Catherine Pavlowski, Jr. High Coordinator/Youth Minister  
Cheryl Camillo, Bookkeeper

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

### SAINT ANDREW ACADEMY

Gene Holmes, Principal, 203-373-1552  
[standrew.catholicacademybridgeport.org](http://standrew.catholicacademybridgeport.org).

### MASSES

Saturday vigil 4:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am and 11:00am  
Weekday 9:00am (Monday thru Friday)

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00—3:45pm

### ADORATION CHAPEL

Open Monday through Friday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

### BAPTISM

Call the parish office to schedule.

### MATRIMONY

Make arrangements with a priest one year in advance.  
Dates or times can be arranged only after speaking with  
one of our parish clergy.

### SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The Sacraments are available to those unable to come to  
church. Please call the parish office to make arrange-  
ments.



**December 17, 2022 — December 25, 2022**

Sat.	17	4:00 PM	Rico Sabatini, Gaetano & Antoinette Montaldo
Sun.	18	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Elizabeth Verelli Antonio & Laura Monteiro
Mon.	19	9:00 AM	For peace in Ukraine
Tue.	20	9:00 AM	
Wed.	21	9:00 AM	Ronald Lasky
Thr.	22	9:00 AM	
Fri.	23	9:00 AM	
Sat.	24	4:00 PM 5:30 PM	The parishioners of St. Andrew The parishioners of St. Andrew
Sun.	25	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	The parishioners of St. Andrew The parishioners of St. Andrew



**The Sanctuary Light burns in memory of  
Ralph & Louise Capasso**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the people of Saint Andrew Parish are a Catholic community and disciples of Jesus Christ. We continue the work of Christ by teaching the word of God, celebrating the Eucharist together, welcoming and encouraging people to develop and share the relationship with God. We strive to be grateful, faithful stewards of God's resources, earthly and spiritual, by being Christ to each other, our neighborhood, our country, and the world.

**ADVENT SCHEDULE**



**Sacrament of Penance**

Every Saturday, 3:00-3:45 PM  
November 26 through December 17

**Advent/Christmas Novena**

Every evening, December 17-23, 7:00 PM  
Ends with Christmas Eve Mass December 24

***Pick up prayer service packet in front vestibule***



**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**Sacrament of Penance**

Monday, December 19, 5:30-6:45 PM  
**NO CONFESSIONS ON DECEMBER 24**

**Christmas Mass**

Saturday, December 24, 4:00 & 5:30 PM  
Sunday, December 25, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Saturday, December 31, 4:00 PM  
Sunday, January 1, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE Week of December 11, 2022

Information not available at time of bulletin transmission



If you would like to become an online giver and schedule your donations to the parish any day, any time by using your computer or smart device.

Please go to the parish website,  
[www.standrewchurchbpt.org](http://www.standrewchurchbpt.org)  
and click on-line giving.

### **Credit Card Donations**

Saint Andrew Parish can now accept credit cards for donations, Faith Formation tuition, Mass stipends, and fund raisers. Please call the parish office for more information.

***Thank you for your generosity!***

***Please Note:*** We cannot accept foreign currency in our collection baskets.

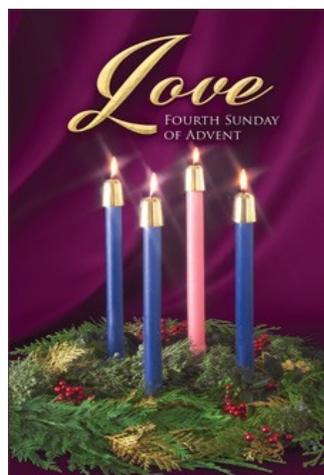


**Rosary**  
**Monday evening**  
**7:00 PM**  
**In the Church**



When a person is ready to uncover his sins,  
God is ready to cover them!

Did you know?



The fourth candle, which is purple, **symbolizes love**. Love is the greatest of all the virtues on the Advent wreath and encompasses Jesus' entire purpose for being on earth.



The Social Concerns Committee is in need of the following items to re-stock our food pantry. Items needed: Cranberry sauce, Stovetop stuffing, boxed/canned potatoes, canned yams, cereal, oatmeal, macaroni & cheese, brownie mix, cake mix, frosting, coffee, tea, peanut butter, jelly, ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing, granola bars, crackers, Lysol wipes, Kleenex, paper towels, toilet tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste. Our food pantry is now open once a month. Many thanks in advance for your support.

If any family in our parish and school community is in need of a food, please contact the parish office at 203-374-6171 or Janis at 203-610-1554.



If you or anyone you know would like to receive the Holy Eucharist at home, please contact the parish office at 203-374-6171.

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A

## COLOR

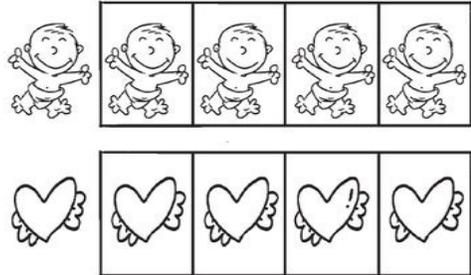
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent • Matthew 1:18-24

## PUZZLE

In each series color the image within the box that is identical to the one outside the box. Make sure to notice all the details



## MISSION

Tonight after dinner, ask your family to light some candles, turn off the lights, and sing some of your favorite Christmas songs about Jesus.



# KID'S CORNER



Seeking singers to lend their talent at ANY of the Christmas Masses:

Sat., Dec. 24, 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM  
Sun. Dec. 25, 9:00 AM or 11:00 AM



## PARISH GIVING TREE

We will collect gift cards again this year. Please put cards in the basket under the tree. Cards from: Stop & Shop, CVS, Walmart, Target, Price Rite, or Walgreens will be given to:

St. Andrew Parish families in need  
Center for Family Justice—serve local shelters  
Home of the Brave—men and women veterans

*Thank you for your generosity*



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

**December 18, 2022**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health. We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life? We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith.

God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations. We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death.



## Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

**Sunday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

**Monday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

**Tuesday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

**Friday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

**Saturday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

**Sunday: Day:** Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3])/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14



### Visit **FORMED**

Help make this Advent season a bit more meaningful!

**Watch:**  
"Adore: Advent Reflections with Fr. John Burns" and

"Adventus: A Spiritual Journey"





## Faith Formation

### Contact Information

Jeannie Bisson —  
Jeannie.Bisson@standrewchurchbpt.org

Sandra Kluun —  
skluun@standrewchurchbpt.org

Catherine Pavlowski —  
cpavlowski@standrewchurchbpt.org

### YOUTH GROUP AND CONFIRMATION SERVICE EVENT

Sunday, December 18, following the 9:00 AM Mass

### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION (FLUFF)

Sunday, January 8, following the 9:00 AM Mass

### FIRST PENANCE & CONFIRMATION CLASS

Sunday, January 22, following the 9:00 AM Mass



### **"Pop Tops" Collection**

The Columbiettes are collecting pop tops to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The funds from recycling the tops go into their programs and services supporting families and their children in need of life saving medical care. This will be an ongoing collection and canisters to put our "tops" into can be found at each entrance of the church. Thank you for your continued support!!!



The Saint Andrew Knights of Columbus, Cabrini Council, invites all eligible candidates to participate in the exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass on the First Sunday of each month

***Please come and see what it's all about!***



### SAINT ANDREW PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

Blood Pressure screening on the third Sunday of the month following all Masses

December 17 & 18



Please pray for all who are sick at home or in nursing homes as well as all the names in our prayer request book.



### Angel Ornaments

Please take the angel ornament you made a donation for home with you and place it on your tree!

**The Columbiettes thank you for your support!**