



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 17, 2023



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 16 ~ Vigil/3rd Sunday in Advent
5:30 PM David A. Barbuti, Jr.
Sunday, December 17 ~ 3rd Sunday in Advent
9:30 AM Richard & Ella May Donnelly,
Rose Parisi
Monday, December 18
9:00 AM
Wednesday, December 20
9:00 AM The People of the Parish
Friday, December 22
9:00 AM
Saturday, December 23 ~ Vigil/4th Sunday in Advent
5:30 PM Jim Barnett, Frank Schmaus,
Joseph Garvila
Sunday, December 24 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent
9:30 AM Frank Schmaus, Jim Barnett

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday, December 23 ~ Vigil/4th Sunday in Advent
5:30 PM Al Ceriale
Sunday, December 24 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent
9:30 AM Sam Osborne

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 23 ~ Vigil/4th Sunday in Advent
5:30 PM Connie Pollos (a), Mary Morse (c)
Sunday, December 24 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent
9:30 AM Denise Turner (a), Marie Barnett (c)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SERVE

Alexandria Baker-Bonitz (Navy) Dylan Bonitz (Navy)
Sarah Bowen (Navy) Juan Gonzalez (Navy)
Kaila McGowan (Marines) Joseph Ruize (Navy)
Robert Pape-Laucella (Marines)
Pashko Shkreli (Army) Carissa Tironi (Army)
Nicholas Turner (Army) Elliott Weidel (Marines)

PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

Barbara Ceriale, Gina Lempka,
Rosemary Osborn, Regina Parthesius, Elissa Zahn

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Marion Andersen, Pat Arlotta, Bridget Auer, Joanne Bach,
Rob Brosnan, Sr. Margaret Ellen Burke, Barbara Ceriale,
Brad Ceriale, Lois Chanofsky, Brian Cross, Nicole Dawson,
John & Lorraine DiCicco, Anna DiMare, Marie DiMare,
Maria Elena DiMare, Michael DiMare, David Felter,
Agnes Ferrone, Anna Gallo, Joe Gallo, Margaret Hale,
Mike Hurd, Julie Oparski, Marianna Oparski, Kerry Roberson,
Helen Ryan, Frances Salewski, Helene Sillen,
Chris Strobl, Beth Texter, Joanne Trumball, Terry Waterson

LOOKING AHEAD

Helping Hands Food Pantry
Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday by Appointment
(9 AM start)

Tuesday, December 19
Religious Education Classes ~ 6:30-7:30 PM

ADVENT RECONCILIATION MON., DEC. 18
2-4 PM & 6-8 PM at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Holiday Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 23
Regular Schedule ~ Mass at 5:30 PM

Sunday, December 24 @ 9:30 AM
4th Sunday of Advent

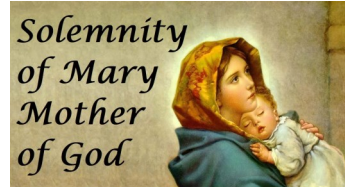
Sunday, December 24 @ 5:30 PM
Christmas Eve (Mass of Christmas)

Monday, December 25 @ 9:30 AM
Christmas Day Mass

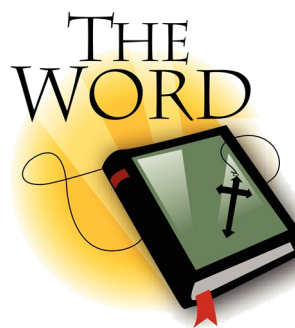
Tuesday, December 26
NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Saturday, December 30
Regular Schedule ~ Mass at 5:30 PM

Sunday, December 31 ~ New Year's Eve
Regular Schedule ~ Mass at 9:30 AM
"The Holy Family"



Monday, January 1 ~ New Year's Day
Mass at 9:30 AM
"The Solemnity of Mary"
A Day of Holy Obligation



Today's Scripture 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28



ABOUT THE LITURGY: Advent Waiting

With all the rushing from one Christmas Party to the next, it can be hard to remember that Advent is specifically a time of expectant waiting. Our modern culture does not promote waiting: we prefer to have everything done in an instant. Instead, Advent presents us with a sense of expectant waiting, like a pregnancy which has its own time. We cannot rush a pregnancy; we cannot rush Advent waiting.

When asked for a symbol of Advent, probably the first thing to come to mind would be the Advent Wreath. There are others, such as the Jesse Tree and the Advent Calendar. I would suggest that a deeper symbol of Advent would be the figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary, pregnant with life and about to bring Jesus Christ into the world. Later on, as a mother, she will care for her Son, nurture him, and help him to grow. When the time is right, she sends him out into the world to begin the saving work of God.

The entire process of slow growth blossoming into new life seems like a distant promise now that we are in winter. Still, it is the hope and vision that can sustain us as we wait; we wait; we wait.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Mass Attendance/Collection

At Mass on December 9 & 10: **121**
Weekend's Collection: **\$1,950.00**

ADVENT FEATURE

GAUDETE SUNDAY

The Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath (hence the 'pink candle' Sunday). Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near. Gaudete means "rejoice". This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

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ADVENT RECONCILIATION MON., DEC. 18
2-4 PM & 6-8 PM at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel



If bad weather is in the forecast, there is always the possibility that Mass and/or Church activities (such as Religious Education) may be canceled. Here is our protocol for making the decision. If Pine Bush Schools are on a morning delay, the 9 AM Mass on Monday, Wednesday or Friday is canceled. If Pine Bush Schools close early, any remaining Church Mass or activities will be canceled. If Pine Bush Schools close for the day, any Church Mass and/or activity is canceled. To find out this information: (1) check the Church website:

- ourladyoftheassumptionchurch.org;
- (2) check the Pine Bush Schools website (pinebushschools.org);
- (3) call the Church office and the announcement on the answering machine will affirm our closing(s).

BULLETIN SPONSOR of the WEEK

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