

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

5:00 DORIS E. SULLIVAN 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

7:00 MR. & MRS. JOSEPH MELLO

8:30 AL & SUE AMORE

10:00 JORGE ARCE LEON

11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 NIALL SULLIVAN

5:00 DAWN WALSH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00 FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

9:00 MAUREEN F. McDONOUGH

12:00 NED THOMPSON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:00 NEILL CORBETT

9:00 CHARLES & MARY & CHARLES DONOHUE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:00 PHILIP BONANNI

9:00 LEO C. MASTERTSON 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 JOHN R. KUBASEK

9:00 JOHN R. KUBASEK

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00 FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

9:00 ANTHONY BUDNICK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:00 JOSEPH KEMP

5:00 MARY IANNUCCI 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:00 FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

8:30 RAYMOND G. SYKES

10:00 MARGARET & GEORGE & THOMAS KOPF

11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 JOHN R. KUBASEK

5:00 WILLIAM C. FRANZ 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of Leo C. Mastertson requested by his Family.

The Sanctuary Candle is in loving memory of Robert Cooney requested by the Geissler Family.

Flowers on the Altar in loving memory of Niall Sullivan donated by his Mother.

Lectors December 14 and 15

Saturday, December 14

5:00 Frank Ponterio

Sunday, December 15

7:00 Theresa Zulch

8:30 Kennedy Apoe

10:00 Roy Hansen

11:30 Maria Montuori

1:00 Charles Sullivan

5:00 Jane Coyle



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Kathryn Brock, Patricia Repoli, Al Frezio, Meghan Clark, Youlanda Santella, Tim Campagna, Alberto Meranda, Matthew Gleason, Jerry Russo, Ethel Thomas, Ruth Irons, Ian Torello, Anna Parente, James Parente, Gerard Crane, Mimi Norberg, Marianne Garlan, Ruth Manieri, Dawn Meade, Lauren Lam, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Alice Longo, Spc. Bryan Camacho, Michael Rucci, Sylvia Lichtenstein, Cpl Justin Campbell, Roseanne Liveo, Robert Donohue, Elizabeth James Timmins, Robert Poggi, USM, Joyce Rusinak, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Theresa Brier, Richard Nagrowski, Robert Pepe, Luella Page, Theresa Mirante, Fred Maley

*Wedding Banns*

I Meghan Miller and Colin Vautirnot

Collection for November 24

Regular ..... \$8,241.50

Thanksgiving ..... \$1,543.00

Collection for December 1

Regular ..... \$6,714.20

Monthly ..... \$3,713.00

50/50 ..... \$545.00

The special collection this weekend is for Retired Religious.

**Congratulations** to Mrs. Jo Ann DiPietro on winning the November 50/50



This Monday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**. Masses are: 7AM, 9AM and 12Noon.

**SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**TODAY**, Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

10AM - 4PM in the school

## HOW MANY “SAINTS” DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS?...

We have now entered upon the season of Advent. That word Advent is a Latin word that means “coming.” We are preparing for the coming of Jesus on Christmas Day. Unfortunately for many of us, the four weeks of Advent are sort of a blur on a fast roller coaster leading to December 25! Usually during this season in the newspapers and on television, we are told how many “shopping days” there are until Christmas. That’s a good reminder for someone like me who tends to do Christmas shopping at the very last minute! Now the Church looks at the days before Christmas in a different way. Instead of counting “shopping days,” the Church counts “saints” days till Christmas! There are many wonderful holy men and women that we honor during the Advent Season.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of Saint Francis Xavier. He was one of the first Jesuit priests and one of the greatest missionaries that the Church has ever known. Francis went to the Far East in 1541 and tirelessly proclaimed the faith in India and then later on in Japan. It was said that he baptized over 40,000 converts. So we can think of the good that one person can do!

December 6<sup>th</sup> is Saint Nicholas’ Day. Most of us are familiar with “Saint Nick.” Santa Claus takes his name after this very holy bishop. One of the most famous stories about Nicholas concerns a father with three daughters who were of marriageable age. Unfortunately, the father was poor and unable to provide a dowry for the girls.

Rather than see them forced into a life of prostitution, the good Bishop Nicholas took three bags of gold and tossed them through the father’s window on three different nights and saved the day! The girls were able to be married due to the generosity of St. Nicholas. From this saint we learn the importance of giving, not only financially but in other ways, knowing that in the long run, it is much better to give than to receive.

During Advent we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of All Saints with two important feasts. The Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception on December 8<sup>th</sup> (this year transferred to Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>) and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrated on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Immaculate Conception refers to the fact that Mary was conceived without Original Sin. That word “Immaculate” means “without stain.” God chose Mary for a very special role as the Mother of His Son. She thus had to be very pure and the Lord prepared Her for that role from the very beginning. We who are sinners look to the sinless Virgin to assist us in the struggles and difficulties of this life. “O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us sinners who have recourse to You!”

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is joyously celebrated in many Hispanic parishes throughout the Archdiocese. The story of Our Lady of Guadalupe is a fascinating one. On December 9, 1531 on Tepeyac Hill outside Mexico City, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a poor Indian peasant by the name of Juan Diego. Our Lady asked that a church be built upon that hill.

When Juan Diego went to the bishop with that request, however, he was not believed. As proof of Her presence, Mary left a most beautiful image of Herself imprinted upon his cloak. That image can be seen today at Guadalupe and is the object of great devotion. In our lives too, we are called to present the image of Mary and Her charity to others around us.

Finally, on December 13<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Saint Lucy is commemorated. Lucy lived in Sicily during the fourth century. Apparently, Lucy was the daughter of a wealthy family and was brought up as a Christian. When she resisted the advances of a pagan man who wanted to marry her, she was arrested, tortured and then put to death because of her faith. The name “Lucy” means light. We as Christians are meant to share the light of Jesus to everyone around us.

During this Advent Season, let us be more spiritually minded and think not so much about the shopping days but the saints’ days. If we do Jesus will truly find room in the “inn” of our hearts on Christmas Day!

Sincerely in Christ, Father Jerome

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2013

### CONFESSIONS

Monday, December 16 - 3:00-8:00PM  
Saturday, December 21 - 4:00-5:00PM  
Monday, December 23 - 4:00- 5:00 PM  
Tuesday, December 24 - 11:00AM - 12Noon

### MASSES

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24  
5:00PM - Family Mass  
8:00PM  
11:30PM - Choir Prelude Mass at Midnight

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25  
7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM & 1:00 PM  
**NO 5:00 PM Mass**

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Tuesday, December 31  
7:00, 9:00 & 5:00 PM

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesday, January 1, 2014  
7:00, 9:00, 11:00 & 12:30 PM  
**No 5:00 PM Mass**



Registration for Grades K-8 is ongoing.  
Please contact the school office to register: 718-442-0347.



CCD - December Classes - 11, 18  
**Advent Pot Luck Dinner -**  
Friday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the school

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE DECEMBER 14 & 15

### Saturday, December 14

5:00 Marc Artuz, Steven Mickel, Jr.

### Sunday, December 15

7:00 Matthew Kalikas, Gabrielle Garcia

8:30 Chris Riccardi, Nick Antonacci

10:00 Andrew Johnson, Elizabeth Althoff

11:30 Michael & Danielle Riccardi, Albert Cardone

1:00 Sean Hartnett, John & Deidre McCafferty

5:00 Nicholas Fortunato, Vicky Bruno

Parish Choir sings today, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent!!  
Come sing with us!!

This is such a great time to get involved with Parish Choir, as we prepare for the upcoming holiday season. Ages 10-110. Make it a family affair!! Moms and daughters/Dads and sons-grandma and granddaughter-come sing together today in Parish Choir!!

Kids Praise Choir/Family Choir mark your calendars! See you in the loft December 15, 2013 11:30 AM Third Sunday in Advent Prizes! Treats! Coffee!

Pamela 442-0058 VM24

Join a Choir today! Buy a CD! Come sing with us in .....!!  
Put a Hymnbook away!

**THE GIVING TREE** 'Tis the season to be thankful for what we have and mindful for the needs of



others. The Special Events Committee invites all our parishioners to take a gift ornament off the Giving Tree in the church and purchase the item listed on the ornament for someone in need this Christmas

Season. Place your wrapped gift with the ornament tag on the outside of the package under the Giving Tree by December 15<sup>th</sup>. We wish to thank all the people of Sacred Heart for always being so generous with your donations to the Giving Tree. The families and charities receiving your gifts will have a merrier Christmas this year because of you.

**THE RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY** under the direction of Marina Alexander will sing Handel's "Dixit Dominus" Benjamin Britten's "Jubilate Deo" and "Hymn to St. Columba" and other selections at Sacred Heart Church on Saturday evening, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 8PM. Tickets at the door are \$25 (General Admission), \$20 (Seniors), and \$10 (Students with ID). Call 718-448-3656 or visit [www.richmondchoral.com](http://www.richmondchoral.com)