

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of Gregorio Paone - 3rd Anniversary requested by Marinetta & Vincent Paone & Family.

The Sanctuary Candle is for A Special Request offered by Lara Drummond.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

5:00 CORINNE A. O'BRIEN & RICHARD KENNEDY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 MARIE D. CARNEGIE
9:00 AL & SUE AMORE
11:00 MICHAEL MUSTILLO, JR.
1:00 THOMAS J. CRANE
5:00 SALVATORE PARAMITO

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:00 MARGUERITE TARASOVIS
9:00 BRENDAN HOEY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 ANDREW ROC JEUDY
9:00 CORINNE A. O'BRIEN & JOSEPH J. KENNEDY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

7:00 NANCY MC VEY
9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DOLAN & LYONS FAMILIES & THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:00 RITA A. SYKES
9:00 HENRY SCHUPFER
5:00 FAMILY MASS
8:00 CHRISTMAS VIGIL
12:00 MIDNIGHT MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:00 CHRISTMAS DAY
9:00 CHRISTMAS DAY
11:00 CHRISTMAS DAY
1:00 CHRISTMAS DAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00 DORIS & AUGIE SABELLA
5:00 RAYE & MILDRED VITACCO

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE QUINN & MC CAULEY FAMILIES
9:00 EUGENE SPILLANE
11:00 DONNA LYNN HOLISTER
1:00 ANTHONY & GABRALLE SABLER
5:00 DAVID SMITH

LECTORS

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:00 Charles Sullivan
8:00 William Jones
12:00 Chip McLean

Christmas Day, December 25

7:00 Vincent Tarasovis
9:00 Don O'Shea
11:00 Frank DiSalvo
1:00 Efrain Ortiz

Saturday, December 26

5:00 Mary Rosso Theresa Hudik

Sunday, December 27

7:00 Vincent O'Grady
9:00 Charles Romanelli Maryann Gambardella
11:00 Frank DiSalvo Pat Jezycki
1:00 Charles Sullivan Dorothy Tarafa
5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Tim Campagna, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Ruth Manieri, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Michael Rucci, Cpl Justin Campbell, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Barbara Walsh, Christian Pepo, Joe Arrigo, Thomas Coppola II, Terrence Gibbons, Sondra Cronin, Jean Forte, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, Bill Kiesewetter, JoAnn DiPietro, Frances Bocignone, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Linda Powers, Frances Nodar

Collection December 13

Regular 6428.00
Retired Religious 1799.00
Immaculate Conception 2281.00



The Rectory will be closed on Friday, December 25th for Christmas.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

As Christmas is upon us I offer you a lovely story that points to the essence of the birth of the Son of God:

“It’s just a small white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past ten years or so. It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas. Oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it---overspending, the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma—the gifts given in desperation because you couldn’t think of anything else. Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I wanted something special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way. Our son Kevin, who was twelve that year, was wrestling at the school he attended. Shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church. The youngsters on this team, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and spanking new wrestling shoes. As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, the light helmets designed to protect the wrestler’s ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford. Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. But as each of their boys got up from the mat, he swaggered around in his tatters with false bravado, a kind of street pride that couldn’t acknowledge defeat. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly. “I wish just one of them could have won,” he said. “They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them.” Mike loved kids—all kids—and he knew them well, having coached little league football, baseball and lacrosse. That’s when the idea for the present came. That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed an envelope on the tree, with a note inside telling Mike what I had done and that this was his gift from me. His smile was the brightest thing

about Christmas that year and in succeeding years. For each Christmas I followed the tradition, one year sending a group of retarded youngsters to a hockey game, another year a check to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground a week before Christmas, and on and on. The envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning, and our children, ignoring their new toys, would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the envelope never lost its allure. The story doesn’t end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was so wrapped up in grief that I barely put the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree, and in the morning it was joined by three more. Each of our children, unbeknownst to the others, had placed an envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition had grown, and someday it will expand even further, as our grandchildren stand around the tree, wide-eyed with anticipation, watching as their fathers take down the envelope. Mike’s spirit, like the Christmas spirit, will always be with us. (This tale is taken from *A World of Stories* by Fr. William Bausch)

St. Alphonsus Liguori once said that if God had created a thousand other worlds, a thousand times greater and more beautiful than the present, it is certain that this work would be infinitely less grand than the incarnation of the Word. In other words, the Son of God becoming the Son of Mary is a thing of absolute and infinite beauty. Jesus, Himself, is beauty ever ancient, ever new. His incarnation is beautiful in itself because the love and humility that it represents, because it manifests the heroism of an all-powerful God emerging on earth to rescue His creation. This beauty spreads throughout the generations of man and produces beauty, sometimes great beauty, in the countless lives that Jesus touches. This beauty is the ink forming the words that describe the stories of love in our lives.

Have a very Merry Christmas!

Father Eric



**Merry Christmas from Fr. Eric,
Fr. Soju and the staff of Sacred
Heart Parish.**

CCD JANUARY HAPPENINGS

Regular Classes Resume in 2016:
January 6, 13, 20 & 27th

Christmas Confession Schedule

Wednesday, December 23 - 4:00-5:00PM
Thursday, December 24 - 11:00AM-12:00 Noon

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

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

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25th
7:00, 9:00 11:00 AM and 1:00PM
NO 5:00 PM MASS

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31st
7:00AM, 9:00AM & 5:00PM

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1st
7:00, 9:00 11:00 AM and 1:00PM
NO 5:00 PM MASS

Staten Island Grandmothers Club

Chapter 899 needs you. We are a friendly and fun local not for profit social/fraternal organization. Our main purpose is to assist sick children and their families right here on Staten Island. Please contact Alana Chanod at 347-423-1190 for more information.

The next session of "Ignatian Spirituality" will be held on Saturday, January 9th at Holy Family Church 366 Watchogue Rd., SI, NY 10314. The meeting will begin at 9:30AM in the meeting room in the basement of the church after the 8:30AM Mass.

**Thank
You**

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Special thanks to all of the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society who worked tirelessly to provide 50 Thanksgiving Baskets to families in need.

Choir News ♪

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Midnight Mass

Midnight Mass at Sacred Heart is arguably one of the most beautiful and beloved music liturgies celebrated all year long! Led by 2 choirs (Parish Choir, France Voyage Choir); organ; strings. A congregational sing-a-long begins at 11:40PM, filling our magnificent poinsettia filled church with cherished carols and anthems!! Imagine singing together with your teenager/parent and grandparents sharing Mass together with generations of family/friends/relatives - establishing an extraordinary tradition shared together for generations to come!! For truly, at Midnight on Christmas Eve, there is no more wondrous or glorious place to be than Sacred Heart Church Midnight Mass 2015!! See you at 11:30 PM Christmas Eve!!

All Choirs: Sing Christmas Morning 11AM!!
See you in the loft!

Family Choir- Start your New Year off right- Come sing with us for the Epiphany of the Lord Mass - 11AM January 3, 2016!! See you in the loft! Pamela 442-0058 (VM 24)

Wishing you peach and New Year Blessings in 2016!
Pamela and the Choirs (VM 24)

Sing Choirs of Angels!! Sing in Exultation!! Come to France 2016!!
Buy an Advent CD!! Join a Choir TODAY!!

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE DEC 24 & DEC 25

Thursday, Dec 24

5:00 Matthew Kalikas & Maeve Butler
8:00 Eric Koleci & Albert Cardone
Midnight Deidre & John Mc Cafferty

Friday, Dec 25

7:00 Kevin Postler
9:00 Samantha Baniswal & James Esco
11:00 Sean Hartnett & Laura Laureano
1:00 William Hollnsteiner & Elizabeth Eadicicco

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE DEC 26 & DEC 27

Saturday, Dec 26

5:00 Kathleen, Mary & Siobhan McCafferty

Sunday, Dec 27

7:00 John & Michael Manning
9:00 Angela Buschemi & Chris Basile
11:00 Timothy Koleci & Michele Chen
1:00 Jack Lotito & Kelly O'Neil
5:00 Matthew & Julia Ahern