

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers  
Weekend of December 17-18

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

5:00 BRIDGET JORDAN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:00 JENNIE SCALMATO 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
8:30 ANTHONY & ANNA VILLANI  
10:00 LEO C. MASTERSON 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
1:00 ANTHONY BUDNICK  
5:00 VINCENT SADOWSKI

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 DORIS SWEENEY  
9:00 AMADO MAGBITANG

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00 VERA & DERMOT COONEY  
9:00 PHILIP VACHON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:00 FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES  
9:00 DOMENICA CILENTO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:00 WILLIAM FRANZ 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
9:00 JOSEPH KEMPF

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00 MARY ANN CURATOLO  
9:00 MARGARET & JOHN GABOR & SON JOHN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 MARY DIPIETRO 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
5:00 RAYMOND G. SYKES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 MICHAEL MUSTILLO, JR.  
8:30 AUGUSTINE APPIGNANI  
10:00 MARGARET & GEORGE KOPF  
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
1:00 JOSEPH BUDNICK  
5:00 NELLIE CIPOLLONE

Saturday, December 17

5:00 Frank Ponterio Teresa Hudik

Sunday, December 18

7:00 Theresa Zulch  
8:30 Kennedy Apoe Barbara Kelly  
10:00 Roy Hansen Maureen Driscoll  
11:30 Maria Montuori Evelyn Bilotto  
1:00 Charles Sullivan Angela Medina  
5:00

Sick Relatives & Friends

Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Kathryn Brock, Margaret Shay, Patricia Repoli, Al Frezio, Julie Hunting, Meghan Clark, Mary DiSalvo, Youlanda Santella, Tim Campagna, Alberto Meranda, Matthew Gleason, Jerry Russo, Ethel Thomas, Aurora David, Ruth Irons, Gordon C. Gladden, Ian Torello, Anna Parente, James Parente, John Lewis, Gerard Crane, Mimi Norberg, Marianne Garlan, Ruth Manieri, Tommy Baratta, Dawn Meade, Rev. Thomas Blessin SJ, Lauren Lam, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenney, John C. Marino, Rose Bradley, Alice Longo, Spc. Bryan Camacho, Patsy Jackson, Gabrielle Plumy, Michael Rucci, Sylvia Lichtenstein, Cpl Justin Campbell, Daniel Gomes, Grace Ford Seamans, Christian Pepo, Joan Romano, Roseanne Liveo, Robert Donohue, Ottimia Paradiso, Elizabeth James Timmins, Robert Poggi, USM, Spec. Michael Biggins, Marie Elaine Jerome, Tom Kopf, Bernard D. Nidus MD, Joyce Rusinak, Jeffrey Schnorbus, Barbara Brennan, Venera Delamonico, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Franco DeGennaro

Collection for December 4

Collection ..... \$7,363.00  
Monthly ..... \$2,362.00

School Collection

School Building Fund ..... \$136.00  
School Budget Deficit ..... \$318.00  
Fr. Poole Scholarship ..... \$15.00

In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the soul of:  
William O'Halloran

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of **Carmin Bifulco** for his birthday in Heaven requested by the Medina's and Bifulco's.

The Sanctuary Candle is in loving memory of all the **deceased members of the Cocozello and Mirto Families** requested by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cocozello

Flowers on the altar in loving memory of the **Blaich and DiBiase Families**, donated by Charlie and Mary Blaich.

The second collection this weekend is for the Retired Religious.

## CHANGE OF MASS AND HEART?

As most of us are aware, there is a new translation for the Catholic Mass. While there are modifications for those of you in the pews, most of the big changes concern the part of the priest. After saying Mass one way for almost twenty-five years, I find the new changes very beautiful but also a bit difficult to get adjusted to. Perhaps that is because so often in life we get very comfortable in a routine way of doing things and that goes even for religious matters!

Some of us are on “automatic pilot” when it comes to Mass. There is an old story told about a priest who was saying Mass and the sound system was malfunctioning; going off and on. At one point, the priest tapped the mike and said, “This microphone is not working!” and the people responded, “And also with you!” That is what it means to be on “automatic pilot.”

Recently, I was speaking with a young priest (ordained only three years). I said that I was having some trouble with all these new changes in the Mass. In reply, he kindly told me that the new prayers are really good because they are forcing us priests and lay people as well, to slow down a bit and truly reflect upon what we are saying and doing in the Liturgy of the Mass. In other words, the new words should enhance our appreciation of what a great treasure that we Catholics possess in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

What a tragedy that for some priests and for many in the congregation, a good Mass is the one that is said as fast as possible. That was not the attitude of the saints, some of whom spent hours at Mass in contemplation of the Eucharistic Mystery. While we don't have hours to spend in church like those saints, God only asks us for one hour a week on Sunday and we should not begrudge Him that!

We priests at times hear so many excuses as to why people miss Mass. Here are some of the top ones:

**“I'm really busy!”** We are all of us so

incredibly busy these days. But if we are too busy for the Lord then really we are too busy. Many of us waste a good deal of time (hours perhaps) on the Internet or in front of a TV set. One hour given to God each week out of 168 is not “wasted” time but well spent here and for the hereafter.

**“But the homilies are so boring!”** Not every priest can talk like Bishop Fulton J. Sheen so cut us priests some slack! Most of us clergy do prepare a well thought out message on Sunday and do our level best. Also, we are there not just for the homily but to receive the Living Christ in Holy Communion who never bores us!

**“Look I can pray at home...I don't need to go to church to pray!”** This is an excuse that I have often heard throughout the years and it is true. Sure, we can pray to God any place and we should. But truth be told, how much praying do we really do at home? Furthermore, we can't receive Holy Communion at our house!

**“I used to go to church, but I really had a bad experience in church.”** Well that can happen to any of us. The church is a human institution and we make mistakes at time in dealing with people. But remember, our relationship with the Lord is the most important thing and nothing should interfere with that.

Along with changes of the Mass, let us change our hearts so that we might truly appreciate the Holy Eucharist - the source and summit of our Christian lives!

Sincerely, Father Jerome



**CCD Class -December 14.**



Don't miss Parish Choir - singing today,  
December 11, 2011 11:30 AM Mass!!  
Don't miss Kids Praise Choir singing  
December 18, 2011 11:30 AM Mass!!



**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT** being baptized in the Catholic faith or you need to

receive the sacraments of Communion or Confirmation contact Fr. Deo at the rectory at 718-442-0058 for information on RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes here at Sacred Heart.

**THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** is in need of funds to provide food for the needy and poor of our parish and parish community at this time of the year. A collection will be taken up on the weekend of December 17 - 18. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

**THE ST. MONICA'S MOTHERS' GUILD** would like to thank the following businesses that donated for the Sacred Heart School Christmas Fair:

- Moretti's*
- Nucci's*
- Subway*
- Pathmark*
- Shoprite*
- Planet Wings*
- Eggers*
- Pastosa's*

**SACRED HEART TROOP/ PACK 74** - Dec. 12 -  
General Meeting - Religious workbooks due  
Round Table Meeting 7:30 Moravian

**CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS**

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass is one of the most beautiful and meaningful Masses of the year!! Here at Sacred Heart we are truly blessed to have an extraordinary choir and a magnificent string trio! The music at our Midnight Mass rivals any city church! So why then are there still empty pews at this Mass? This is such a wonderful way for a family with teenagers and other children to celebrate Christ's Birth! Really, what better way? We really hope more of you will make Christmas Eve Midnight Mass a tradition in your household. There really is no better place to be at midnight on Christmas!!

P.S. Arrive by 11:30 PM to get a good seat and sing Christmas carols with us in an Audience Sing Along with the strings - Heavenly!!!! See you there!!

Pamela 442-0058 (VM 24)

**ST. PETER'S HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI** - Second Alumni Christmas Concert today, December 11 at St. Peter's Church at 3:00 PM. Concert proceeds will go towards the Carl William Lesch Scholarship Fund. Please see the flyer in today's bulletin for further information.



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*Sacred Heart Church*

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2011**

**CONFESSIONS:**

*Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00 - 4:45PM*  
*Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00-8:00PM*  
*Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 4:00 - 5:00PM*  
*Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> 4:00 - 5:00PM*  
*Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 11:00AM - 12Noon*

**MASSES**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>*  
*5:00PM - Family Mass*  
*8:00PM*  
*11:30PM - Choir Prelude Mass at Midnight*

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

*Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM & 1:00PM*  
*NO 5:00PM Mass*

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**

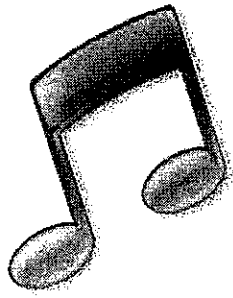
*Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>*  
*5:00PM*

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

*Sunday, January 1, 2010*  
*7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM, 1:00PM*  
*&*  
*5:00PM Mass*

**981 Castleton Ave**  
**Staten Island, New York 10310**

**REVISED SCHEDULE 12/9/2011**



Join Us  
For  
An Old Fashion Neighborhood

# Christmas Caroling

Saturday, Dec 17

After the 5 o'clock Mass, Sacred Heart Parish will have the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. We will then enjoy Christmas caroling through the neighborhood. We plan to return to Sacred Heart for Hot Chocolate and friendship.