

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

5:00 MR. & MRS. JOSEPH MELLO

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE QUINN & MCCAULEY FAMILIES
 9:00 MR. & MRS. ALBERT PERRY
 11:00 JOHN T. HARTMANN, SR.
 1:00 ERIN FITZPATRICK
 5:00 IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF RAY & EVELYN WITTEK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:00 JOHN TORKLESON
 9:00 DAVID SMITH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:00 MARIA VOLPE
 9:00 MARIA & MICHAEL DA ROCHA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00 DR. ANDREW CONTI
 9:00 GLORIA KISTO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:00 JOHN CULLENAN
 9:00 WALTER PERKOWSKI

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:00 KURT DUEZL
 9:00 RAFAELLA TIERNO

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DOLAN & LYONS FAMILIES & THE SOULS IN PURGATORY
 5:00 CATHERINE SYKES SMITH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:00 GENE SPILLANE
 9:00 BEN ZARRELLI
 11:00 XUE QIAN ZHEN
 1:00 NIALE SULLIVAN
 5:00 JAMES SULLIVAN

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of the Thomas J. Crane (40th Anniversary) requested by the Crane Family.

Flowers on the Altar are donated for a Special Intention.

LECTORS

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 5

5:00 Frank Ponterio Pat Foley

Sunday, December 6

7:00 Vincent O'Grady
 9:00 Charles Romanelli Maryann Gambardella
 11:00 Frank Di Salvo Ken Wisniewski
 1:00 Charles Sllivan John Mooney
 5:00 Jane Coyle 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

Due to an early publication date, collection amounts for 11/22 and 11/29 will be published in a later bulletin.

Wedding Banns

III- Lauren Cipoletti and Frank Citera
 Tiffany Bari and Joseph Scarpulla



Friday, December 4th, is First Friday. We will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting at 11 AM (barring any funerals) and ending with Benediction at 5 PM. Please come and spend an hour with our Lord.

THE ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY will gather for the 9 AM Mass Sunday, December 6th and afterward have their monthly meeting at The Arms. Please contact Theresa Cunningham at 718-981-8047 with any questions.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

A blessed Advent to all of you! A comedian said, “When I was a little kid, I wished the first word I said was ‘quote,’ so that, when I died, I could say ‘unquote.’” I suppose we can have a sense of humor about death even if death is no laughing matter. In *Catholic New York* of November 12, 2015, Cardinal Dolan speaks of death in a very fine article entitled, “A Time to Contemplate The Last Things.” I would like to highlight what was said by His Eminence regarding funerals. The Cardinal spoke approvingly about the trend at funerals to concentrate on eternal life and find consolation in the victory of Jesus over eternal death. Many of us have been to an uplifting funeral where we almost felt eager to quit this life because Heaven was portrayed during the Liturgy in such attractive terms. Priests who celebrate funerals are motivated to bring hope and healing to the grieving family of the deceased. Therefore, they will speak in glowing terms about paradise and emphasize the likelihood of the deceased being there soon (if not already). The Cardinal points out that while we rejoice in the gift of eternal life promised us by our Lord and trust in God’s mercy, nevertheless, we do not take it for granted that our loved one is in Heaven. He states, “There is still purgatory, and pardon me for bringing it up-there still is hell! That’s why humble prayers for the mercy of Jesus upon the soul of the departed is the strong Catholic tradition, not immediate canonization!” This is a valuable insight, and it reflects the delicate balance that we must achieve at a funeral. On the one hand, we aim to inspire hope and a joyful anticipation of reunion with our loved ones in God’s kingdom. On the other hand, we must soberly acknowledge the reality of sin and judgment which keep a soul from union with Christ in the next life, either temporarily or eternally.

The Cardinal also urged that eulogies be written out and brief (3-5 minutes). He described their purpose as “expressing gratitude to God for the person, thanking those who have offered support, and affectionately recalling a bit of the life of the deceased.” He points out that a eulogy is better at the wake or at the cemetery. I think the Cardinal has a real point here. I have seen many eulogies delivered better at other venues, especially at the wake where there is a less formal atmosphere, and where the audience feels free to laugh or add their own relevant comments to what the speaker is

saying, which, in my experience, enhances the reflection. The speaker too is usually much more relaxed at these venues. Persons requesting to do a eulogy should ask themselves, “Can the eulogy be done for the deceased at the wake, cemetery (or repast)?” and “Am I the right one to do the eulogy?” Once, at another parish, I spoke to the son-in-law (of a deceased person) who insisted on delivering the eulogy at the Mass. However, the parish where I was stationed did not allow eulogies at the Mass. He did not appreciate that rule but graciously accepted it anyway. As he was leaving the office the widow of the deceased man said to me, “Thank you Father. I did not want my son-in-law to give a eulogy.”

The Cardinal reminded us that cremated remains should be buried immediately in hallowed ground. That is important because we believe that the remains of a person are sacred since during life they housed the presence of Jesus Christ. Leaving the remains on a mantle rather than in a blessed grave or tomb is less than desirable. We have beautiful Catholic cemeteries that are available for the purpose of rendering proper homage to the bodies of our loved ones.

Lastly, His Eminence spoke of the importance of remembering the deceased in prayer and Mass intentions. We at Sacred Heart are certainly very lively about having Masses said for deceased relatives and friends. It is a great idea. The Mass offered for a dead person is most powerful indeed because it is the mystical re-presentation of the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ applied to benefit the soul that has passed on. I know of a priest who served at a parish and then left one thousand dollars to that church upon his death so that Masses would be offered regularly for his repose. Talk about estate planning! Heavenly estate planning.

Father Eric



**This Week Begins Our
New Mass Schedule**

Saturday - 5:00pm,

Sunday - 7, 9, 11AM, 1PM and 5PM

CCD NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

Class Dates -December 2, 9 & 16

Pot Luck Dinner - Friday December 4th -

See flyer for further information.

Sacred Heart Home School Association:

St. Monica's Mother Guild Ladies Night Out

Wed, Dec 9th from 7-11pm at The Staaten -

\$55pp - Buffet, DJ, Open Bar, Raffles-See Flyer.



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. Once you have purchased your gift, please return it wrapped with the ornament tag from the Giving Tree on the outside of the package. You can place your gift under the tree on Sundays or during the week. The cut off date to return the gifts to the Giving Tree is December 13th. 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.

Bible Study



BIBLE STUDY GROUP meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7PM in the rectory. If you are interested in joining contact the rectory at 718-442-0058.

Christmas at St. Peter's:

Start the Christmas season the old fashioned way!

St. Peter's H.S. Seton Chorale/ Glee Club Alumni

present the 6th Annual Christmas Concert at St. Peter's Church, Dec 13th at 4:00PM. Come, enjoy beautiful

Christmas music For ticket information call Wayne '83 at 718-971-3267. For program ads call Theresa '72 at 718-981-8047.

Richmond Choral Society: presents

Heaven and Nature Sing- Sat, Dec 5th-8pm

at St. Clare's Church. See flyer for more info.

Choir News ♪

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FAMILY CHOIR: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

December 6-**11AM!!** (See you in the Loft - note the **New Time!!**) Bring the whole family to sing a heart warming 2nd Sunday of Advent Mass!! **Prizes!! Treats!! Coffee!!!**

JOIN PARISH CHOIR FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Bring your sons, daughters, grandchild (9 and over) and begin the *priceless tradition of singing together from the Mysteries of Advent* through our *beautiful Midnight Mass!* (And beyond, if you can!) See you Wednesday Dec. 2nd at 8pm in the (Rectory Basement Parish Hall) *Questions?* 718-442-0058 (VM 24) Pamela

Kids Praise Choir (ages 5-grade 5) is back in the Chapel for rehearsal on Wednesday's (5-6pm)! Hop on Board! *Questions?* Registration form required! **Free!!**Pamela (VM24) See you Wed. December 2nd at 5pm in the Chapel!

Brides of 2016!

See you in the loft after any 1pm Mass on Sunday for your music consultation! Pamela (VM-24)

Join a choir today! Put away a hymnbook! Buy a CD! Come with us on our next International Choir Tour!

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE DEC 5 & DEC 6

Saturday, Dec 5

5:00 Matthew & Chris Riccardi

Sunday, Dec 6

7:00 Ryan Virga & Samantha Baniswal

9:00 Austin Maida & Hayley Bond

11:00 Gabrielle Garcia & Matthew Ahern

1:00 Sarah & Megan Lauren

5:00 Michele Chen & William Hollnsteiner

Moore Catholic Christmas Fair - Sat, Dec 5, 11AM-5PM

\$1.00 Admission, Raffles, Vendors, D.J., Santa's Café & Handmade Crafts.

Cardinal Dolan Young Adult Mass with Matt Maher &

Audrey Assad: You are invited to join the office of Young Adult Outreach for a Young Adult Mass presided by Cardinal Dolan on Wed, Dec 9th at 7:30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Confessions and Adoration with music by Matt Maher & Audrey Assad will be held from 6:30-7:30pm. Please arrive early. There will be a post-Mass social at a location TBA. Learn more at www.CatholicNYC.com