

The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

Second Sunday of Advent – December 6, 2020

Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - frrapaglia@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciuolo

Principal

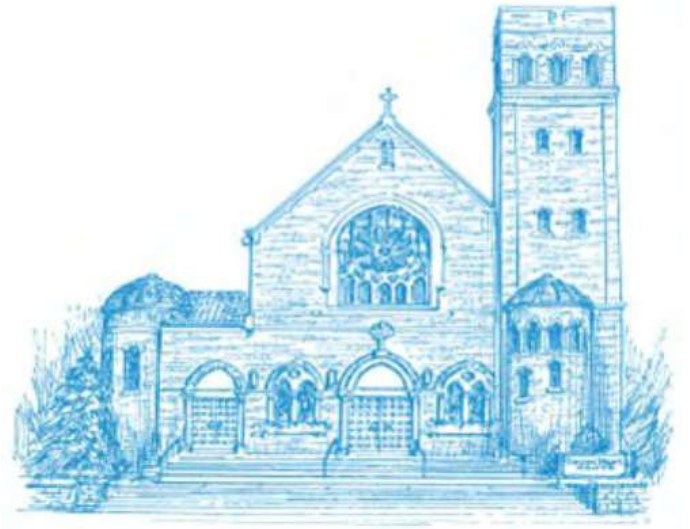
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Francine Rizzuto

Director of Music

Mr. Tom Czarnecki



Masses

The Lord's Day

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sundays 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM (Choir), 1:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:30 AM Monday-Saturday

Rosary 9 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confessions

Saturdays - 4:00 to 4:45 PM, Any time upon request

Parish Registration

Please formalize your membership in our parish community by registering at the parish office. We sincerely welcome all new parishioners!

Handicapped Accessible

Office Hours - Sunday 10 AM - 3PM

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM

Church open daily until 5 PM (Sundays until 3 PM)

Novena Devotions : Mon & Wed (after daily Mass)

Pro Life Rosary: Tuesday 9 AM

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Sick Calls

Anytime, please contact one of the priests at (718) 442-0058.

Baptism

Please contact the pastor for an appointment to arrange the Baptism.

Marriages

Couples should contact the rectory at least 6 months before the wedding to arrange the time, banns, and Pre-Cana Conference.

Sponsor Certificate

If you have been asked to be a godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation attend the 9 AM Mass on Sunday and see Sister Barbara immediately after in the church vestibule. Please see the parish website under the Worship/Sacraments link for godparent guidelines.

Websites:

Church - www.sacredheartsi.org

School - www.sacredheartschoolsi.org

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718-442-0058

Church Fax
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School
718-442-0347

School Fax
718-442-6978

C.C.D. Office
718-448-1536

DECEMBER 6, 2020

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CONFITEOR

I confess to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; and I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, and all the Angels and Saints, and to you my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord Our God. Amen.

READING 1 IS 40:1-5,9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is

your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Responsorial Psalm PS 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase.

Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.



READING 2**2 PT 3:8-14**

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

ALLELUIA**LK 3:4,6****R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**GOSPEL****MK 1:1-8**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”* John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach Christmas, we see decorations of various types that feature Santa Claus. Although these decorations are well-intentioned, at some level, they represent an affront to Christian sensibilities because the birth of Christ that we celebrate at Christmas is not about a fat man with a red suit and a long white beard. It is a Catholic holiday, hence the term “Christmas,” which refers to the liturgical celebration of the Mass for the birth of Christ, or “Christ—Mass”. The subject of the celebration is the love of God made flesh in the Lord Jesus Christ, blessed be His Name, and the freedom from sin and death and the fullness of light and life that He brings us.

The Psalmist predicted the coming of the Messiah. (There are about 300 prophecies of the Christ in the Old Testament that are fulfilled in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth). He writes that in Jesus: *Love and truth will meet; justice and peace will kiss. Truth will spring from the earth; justice will look down from Heaven.* (Psalm 85:10-11). Images of Santa Klaus distract us from the true meaning of the celebration indicated in these verses from Sacred Writ. Therefore, if we feel the need to decorate at Christmas, we do well to feature images that reflect the true nature of the holy day, and not limit ourselves to Santa, snowmen, mistletoe, wreaths and reindeer.

Notwithstanding the true nature of Christmas, the fat man with the red suit and beard is connected to the celebration. In history this man is St. Nicholas of Myra, whose name in the language of the Dutch, the original settlers of our part of North America, is “Sinterklaas,” which evolved into Santa Claus. Admittedly, whether he was bearded and obese is unknown. His feast day is normally celebrated today, December 6th.

St. Nicholas was the bishop of Myra, which is present day Mugla, in southwestern Turkey. He was among the most popular saints of the Middle Ages, and remains quite celebrated today. When Muslims invaded Myra in 1087 the body of the Saint was taken secretly to Bari, Italy. Pope Urban II presided over the solemn enshrinement of his relics, and up to the present day an oily substance known as *Manna di San Nicola*, which is highly valued for its healing

power, is said to flow from them.

Jacob of Voragine wrote a famous book of the Saints in the thirteenth-century entitled, *The Golden Legend*. Jacob speaks of the charity and humility of St. Nicholas manifested in his young adulthood: “One of his neighbors, a nobleman, was so poor that he planned to deliver his three daughters to prostitution in order to make a living from the profits of their shame. When Nicholas heard of this, he was horrified at the thought of such a sin. Wrapping a lump of gold in a cloth, during the night he threw it through a window in his neighbor’s house. Then he fled without being seen. The next morning the man found the bundle of gold. Thanking God, he immediately arranged for his eldest daughter’s marriage. A while later, St. Nicholas did the same thing a second time. Finding the gold, the neighbor broke out into great songs of praise. He determined in the future to watch and discover who was thus coming to the relief of his poverty. A few days later a bundle of gold twice as large was thrown into his house. He heard the noise it made falling and set out in pursuit of Nicholas. He begged him to stop so he could see his face. He ran so fast that he caught up with the young man and recognized him. Throwing himself before him, he tried to kiss his feet. But Nicholas declined his thanks. He exacted a promise that the man would keep the secret of his deed until after his death.” (Quoted in Bert Ghezzi, *Voices of the Saints: A Year of Readings*, 2000, p. 539-540).

From the life of Nicholas and of all the Saints we see the connection to Christmas: the Son of God became like us so that we might become like Him.

God bless you!

Father Eric

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

DECEMBER 6, 2020



Saturday, December 5:

5:00 Patrick Jordan

Sunday, December 6:

7:00 Eugene Spillane
9:00 Donald & Therese O'Shea
11:00 Cesibelle Lara Umana
1:00 Todd Larson (1st Anniversary)

Monday, December 7:

9:30 George E. Brain
7:00 People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 8:

9:30 Dawn Walsh (86th Birthday)
12:00 Donald Moresco

Wednesday, December 9:

9:30 Emily McCay

Thursday, December 10:

11:00 Charles, Mary & Charles M. Donohue

Friday, December 11:

9:30 Jean Pandolfi

Saturday, December 12:

9:30 Robert T. McGrath
5:00 John R. Kubasek

Sunday, December 13:

7:00 Ben Zarrelli
9:00 Al & Sue Amore & Susan Pellecchia
11:00 Joseph Kempf
1:00 Deceased Members of
The Decker Family

Saturday, December 12:

5:00 Mary Rosso

Sunday, December 13:

7:00 AM Vincent O'Grady
9:00 AM John Mooney Jr.
11:00 AM Maria Montuori
1:00 PM Wanda Ortiz

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 12:

5:00 Melani Fernando

Sunday, December 13:

7:00 Jacob Torres
9:00 Abigail Cruz
11:00 Matthew Basile
1:00 Sean Ahern

COLLECTIONS:

November 22nd.....\$6,883.00
November 29th.....\$5,961.00
Catholic Charities.....\$1,178.00
Congratulations to M/M Kevin Torres on winning the November 2020 Fifty-Fifty

ATTENDANCE NOV 22ND: 406

ATTENDANCE NOV 29TH: 433

CAPACITY: 210

The Sanctuary Candle is in loving memory of Margaret Croake donated by Ed & Joanne Delahunt & Family.

St. Michael Prayer

Saint Michael The Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness & snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan & all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Sacred Heart IOC: Just a reminder that Sacred Heart's Increased Offertory Campaign is still ongoing. So far the results have been very positive and thanks to all the parishioners who have increased their donations. Please consider this if you haven't done so already.

SI Catholic Women's Ministry: We are excited to announce the creation of a Catholic Women's Ministry group which is loosely based on Elizabeth Ministry. The Group is moderated by Deborah Sucich and the next meeting is on Wednesday, December 16th at 4 PM in the Sacred Heart Rectory Basement. All women of the parish are invited and please bring some friends or family.

Sacred Heart Giving Tree: The annual Sacred Heart Giving Tree is up. Please help by giving a gift to a needy person this holiday season. If you take a tag from the tree please remember that the item is due back by the third week of Advent. Your item must be returned gift wrapped, labeled and with the original tag on the box/package. Gifts may either be left under the tree after Mass or returned directly to the Rectory.

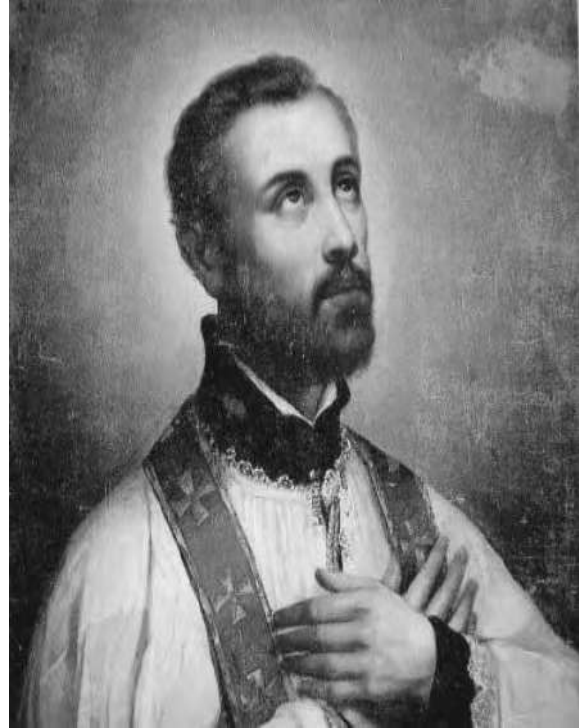
Collection for Retired Religious: The annual collection for the Retirement for The Religious will be taken up on the weekend of December 12th & 13th. Every year this collection goes to the benefit of our retired priests, brothers and sisters. During their active ministry these religious served at parishes, taught in elementary and high schools, administered at hospitals and nursing homes and much more. Every year an average of \$30,000 goes towards their retirement as many have very little income so please be as generous as you can be.

Immaculate Conception: Tuesday, December 8th is the Feast of The Immaculate Conception, it is a Holy Day of Obligation. Sacred Heart Mass times are Wednesday, December 7th at 7 PM and Tuesday, December 8th, at 9:30 AM & 12 Noon.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

FEAST DAY: DECEMBER 4TH

WE ASK FOR THE INTERCESSION OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER ON BEHALF OF OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS



Sick Relatives & Friends

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of ADVERTISED coffee
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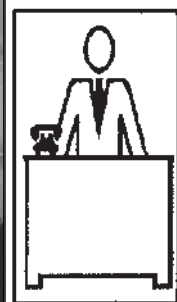
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