



Second Sunday of Advent  
December 6, 2015

Holy Mass  Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 5</b> Deceased Members of the DeSouza and Estrada Families and Carmen Armas
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 6</b> Thomas Fitzpatrick and Patricia Flynn Alphons Schellekens and Lois Ludwig Maryann & Peter Cullen and Bill Schwarze Amelia & Sabino Gaito and Sabino, Jr. and Virginia and Carlo Miele
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 7</b> Daniel Finnerty and Paige Garubbo
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am  7:30 pm	<b>December 8</b> The Edwin L Sprague, Jr. Family and John R. Sweeney Family Deceased Members of the Coviello Family and Faith Fleming
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 9</b> Bill Foley and John Taylor Babbitt
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 10</b> Margaret Murphy and John Sentiwany, Jr.
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 11</b> Bridget & Michael Burns and Betty Dudley
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 12</b> Catherine Moore and Thomas Peterpaul Deceased Members of the Lepore Family and D. Thomas Tyrone and David Tracy
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am  11:00 am  5:00 pm	<b>December 13</b> Harold Dubbs and Rosemarie Taylor Deceased Members of the Marino Family and Nick Marconi Deceased Members of the McFarland Family and Joseph Wujek, 25th Anniversary Anne Andres and Peggy Leary Selton

**Third Sunday of Advent**

December 13, 2015

**First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a**

Zephaniah urges the people of Jerusalem to rejoice because the Lord is in their midst. He conveys the message that God will love and protect those who have remained faithful to him.

**Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7**

Paul encourages the Philippians to be ready for Christ. He tells them not to worry about their concerns, but to instead ask God's help and allow his peace to fill their hearts and minds.

**Gospel: Luke 3:10-18**

John the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."



**Mass Schedule December 12th & 13th**

<b>Fr. Bob</b>	<b>Sunday 9 am and 11 am</b>
<b>Fr. Chris</b>	<b>Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 7:30 am</b>
<b>Fr. Dennis</b>	<b>Sunday 5 pm</b>

**Reconciliation (Confession) December 12th**

<b>Fr. Chris</b>	<b>Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm</b>
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**RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

*Song, Biblical reading, Reflection and Private Absolution*

**Tuesday, December 15, 2015**  
**7 pm in the Church**

*Several priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*

**Weekly Memorials**

**The Lamp** burning before the Blessed Sacrament the week of December 6th is in memory of Fr. Ed Hinds.

**The Candles** on the altar the week of December 6th are in memory of Deceased Members of the Women of Mary.

**The Flowers** on the altar the week of December 6th are in memory of Deceased Members of the Yampaglia and Mucelli Families given by Martha Yampaglia.

**Hear our Prayers for those who are ill** especially Kevin Hamilton, Robert Hartle, Phyllis Monks, Robert Astorino, Anthony LaFerrara, Emily Monks, Neiko Pagaling, Denise Phalon Cascio, Frances Smith, Tom Warren, Judy Latalladi, Gregory Bozzo, Dorothy Sullivan, Bill Lanahan, Cathy Bedford, Hope Tinn Clark, Irene Buss, Roger Goodman, Maria Selca-Haher, Robert Olpp, Patrizia Astorino, Terry Gardner, Nora Ray, Carol Meyers, Pat Marciano, Maryanne Duffy McDermott, Kyle Noonan, Thomas Unger, Sandy Safier, Tony Caljean, Jo Marino, Warren Gramm, William Virgilio, Mary Cecere, Kristin Curcio, Tony Capone, Michael Marino, David Johnson, Luke Klisart, Eileen Horan and **for all our deceased especially Edward Cameron.**



**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

**Monday, December 7**

Faith Formation: 4 pm; School  
Meditation Group: 7 pm; Church

**Tuesday, December 8**

Shawl Ministry: 1 pm; South Room  
Respect Life Ministry: 7:30 pm; North Room

**Thursday, December 10**

Walking with Purpose: 9 am; East/West Room  
Marian Prayer Group: 10 am; North Room  
Walking with Purpose: 7 pm; South Room

**Friday, December 11**

Adult Scripture Study: 9 am; South Room

**Saturday, December 12**

Pastoral Council Meeting: 8:45 am; South Room

**Sunday, December 13**

Chili Sign-Up: Church Lobby  
Faith Formation: 8:15 am, 10:15 am, & 7pm; School  
RCIA: 12:15 am; South Room



*From the desk of our Pastor*

### Finance Report 2014-15

This Tuesday initiates the beginning of the Holy Year of Mercy called by Pope Francis as each of us is invited to bring forth the mercy of the Advent Season to our faith community; it is also the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. In initiating this Holy Year, Pope Francis stated, "A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just." The Pope's recent trip to Africa opened the eyes of many to specific needs of African people which are so different than needs articulated to the Pope from the United States. Among those needs include access to safe water, adequate housing and access to sanitation, schools, and hospitals. "To deny a family water, under any bureaucratic pretext whatsoever, is a great injustice, especially when one profits from this need." Pope Francis, 11/27/15

Each year the Finance Committee of St. Patrick Church provides a report to the parish aware that your support to the church permits the parish to maintain the facilities, and function as a believing community. It also gives me the opportunity to say "thank you" for your financial support in that there is tremendous generosity extended by so many who worship at St. Patrick Church. This reflects your desire to keep the mission of the parish active as your recognition of needs to maintain a church reflect a commitment to support a mission that takes in countless responsibilities of maintenance to the buildings and grounds, financial commitments to the Diocese, social outreach to the needy, and education of students in St. Patrick School; as well as Faith Formation for children and adults, and Youth Ministry. It also permits us to pay insurances, benefits, and salaries to employees which includes the Pastoral Staff and School Personnel.

The financial report is for the 2014-15 fiscal year and may be found in the back of today's bulletin as well as on our parish website. It consists of a three year synopsis of income and expenses that includes offertory income, revenues from the Partners in Faith Campaign, charitable donations to both the diocese as well as local charities for the past fiscal year coupled with statistics that pertain to St. Patrick School, Faith Formation, and Youth Ministry. Some of the capital improvements of the past year consisted of upgrades to the parish office complex on Oliver Street as well as in the work sacristy and Blessed Sacrament chapel in the church, maintenance in our parking lot, and an upgrade in equipment for snow removal. It also includes the completion of the School Science Lab, electrical system upgrade and new heating/cooling units in the school. Questions and comments that pertain to this report are always welcomed and appreciated. Please feel free to contact me, our business administrator, Mrs. Ginny Donnellon, or the chair of our finance committee Mr. John Reichard, [jreichard@fortress.com](mailto:jreichard@fortress.com) for any clarification that is needed on any portion of the report.

In this Season of Advent the Gospel message invites us to follow a road less traveled, which is deeply personal and spiritual. Since our gifts and possessions come from God's graces, we are called to share, serve, and be part of a worshipping community called a parish. This invites us to offer time to serve, or volunteer in a particular ministry. Each of us is blessed with a unique talent that renders opportunities to benefit the parish that can help save financial resources for the parish. Sacrificial giving challenges us to place our trust and security in God, not in possessions. This challenges us to evaluate our own giving, and even ponder the ability to increase donations by 1% annually. If all at St. Patrick Church responded to this invitation, it would assist the parish to move forward with greater ease in generating a balanced budget.

In his general audience on October 9, 2013, Pope Francis stated, "The Church does not rest solely beneath the shadow of our steeple; rather, she embraces a vast number of peoples and nations who profess the same faith, are nourished by the same Eucharist, and are served by the same pastors." As pastor of this faith community, I thank you for continuing to support our parish with your presence, blessings, and skills; as well as the fulfillment of pledges through the Partners in Faith Campaign, and this year's Bishop's Appeal. May God bless your Advent Season as well as this Year of Mercy so that the Lord's peace comes to you.

*In Christ's Love,  
Fr. Bob*

**BAPTISM:** Arrangements should be made one month in advance by calling Deacon Joe Wisneski at 973-635-4976. Parents are expected to attend an instructional session with a Baptism Team. Baptisms are celebrated at 12:30 pm Sundays or at a Sunday Mass.

**RCIA-RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The R.C.I.A. invites non-baptized persons and those baptized into another faith to participate in a faith journey in preparation for becoming a Catholic. If you are interested in any aspect of R.C.I.A., please email Deb at [Dkuzma@st-pats.org](mailto:Dkuzma@st-pats.org) or call her at the parish office at ext. 23.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Congratulations! In order that we can together plan for your big day, couples should notify the Church and begin to prepare at least one year in advance of the date. Please email Fr. Bob at [Fr.Bob@st-pats.org](mailto:Fr.Bob@st-pats.org) or call Fr. Bob at the parish office ext. 22.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOME BOUND:** If a family member or someone you know is recuperating from a hospital stay or is homebound for any length of time and would like to receive Holy Communion, please let us know. It is a priority for the parish community to support and be present to those who cannot be with us for the celebration of the Eucharist. If you would like a priest or deacon to visit a family member who is hospitalized, contact Peggy at [Pgentile@st-pats.org](mailto:Pgentile@st-pats.org) or call her at the parish office ext. 25.

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please call the parish office at 973-635-0625 to arrange for a priest.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST:** Children preparing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist begin preparation in first grade. To register, visit our website at [www.st-pats.org](http://www.st-pats.org) or contact Ginny, [vvalvatore@st-pats.org](mailto:vvalvatore@st-pats.org).



## AROUND THE PARISH

### Baptisms

**Isabella Rose Justini**

Daughter of Michael and Selena

### Welcome New Parishioners

A warm St. Patrick welcome to those new to our parish especially **Joe and Marie Bradley**. We look forward to getting to know you!

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

This Tuesday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation in the United States. Under this title, the Blessed Mother is patroness of the United States as well as Spain, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is also the beginning of a Holy Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis. Mass will be celebrated in church at 8 am and 7:30 pm. There also will be a school mass at 9:15 am. All are invited.



### Forget-Me-Not Weekend

Our monthly food collection is this weekend, **December 5 & 6**. Your generous donations are shared with the local community as well as our brothers and sisters in Paterson! Your generous food donations can be brought to the Fr. Ed Center after masses or the basket in the church foyer.

**Thank You!** We have reached out on behalf of others and asked for support SO many times in the past months! The response is always positive. We appreciate the many ways you give and share through our outreach ministries...the generosity of our parish is such a gift! Most of us can't say yes to everything. Thankfully, it seems that many of you do!! But surely the Advent season of expectation and hope is an appropriate time to look beyond ourselves. We need opportunities that bring us deeply into the spirit of this season, to remind us of the gift it can be.

The Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve. In Advent we are given four precious weeks of hopeful anticipation. Hope can burn brighter within us when we reach out to others, when we care for those less fortunate, not only so that we might share God's love with them, but also that our yearning for the Kingdom might be renewed within us. As we choose an Advent journey that will enrich our celebration of Christmas, let us keep in mind both 'advents' of Christ, the first in Bethlehem and the second yet to come.

### Thanksgiving Thank You!

Once again we were able to gather a garage full of frozen turkeys and non-perishables to share with local families and The Father English Center in Paterson. A thank you from Carlos Roldan at the Center:



*I really thank you very much for all you do for our needy families. God is good. We have enough food for all the families that come to our doors this holiday. We already serviced over 400 families between Monday and Tuesday, and I know that we'll see at least 200 more families Wednesday. God bless you all.*



## MUSIC MINISTRY

**"Gloria" Advent Christmas Concert**

*A musical celebration of the Christ Child for families*

**Saturday, December 5: 7:30 pm at St. Patrick Church**

**Sunday, December 6: 2:00 pm at Christ the King**

**Directed by Music Ministers**

**Maggie Hanson & Elias Scultori**

**Admission is free**

This weekend we hold the 5th annual Advent concert with combined choirs of St. Patrick and Christ the King. This gala celebration of the coming Christ Child is a must! More than 60 adult and teenage singers make up the chorus. A complete handbell choir will play, and special instruments like harp, trumpet, cello, drums, violin, and flute will adorn the music. Child and adult readers will share touching stories of Christ's birth. Most of the music will be familiar Advent/Christmas favorites, but some of it will be unique, mysterious, and unusual. Bring your family and neighbors to enjoy the magic that results when faith-filled parishioners, love, and hard work come together in the name of Christ. You will feel the wonder and joy Christ brings. Hope to see you there!

### Christmas in a Box

Thanks again to everyone who was able to help out this year with our Christmas outreach ministry! Remember that drop off for your donations is **THIS Sunday, December 6th**. Please drop off at the Fr. Ed Center by 11 am. Remember our many volunteers will make this process easy. Curb side drop off is available! Thank you again!

### Shawl Ministry

Our shawl ministry grew out of our Health Ministries, through the energy and imagination of our Parish Nurses. We will gather this Tuesday, December 8th in the Parish Offices from 1-2:30 pm. The shawls that the group produces are shared with the ill or homebound of the parish. These shawls are tangible symbols of love shared with those for whom we pray as a parish and in our gathering. We are hoping to expand this ministry and would like you to join us! We have patterns or you can use your own! Bring a friend!

### Eva's Village

**Next Weekend, December 12 & 13**, consider signing up to prepare chili for Eva's Village. Everything you need to know about helping with this ministry is in the church lobby! Consider helping out. Make it a family project. Sign up next weekend in the church lobby. Take a set of the pans provided with the accompanying recipe and instructions. Return the two pans of chili you've prepared and **frozen** the following weekend. It's that easy! The food we provide is much needed and greatly appreciated!

### Children's Gingerbread Workshop

On Saturday, December 19th from 10:30 am-noon, Youth Ministry will be hosting a Gingerbread House Morning for children in kindergarten and older. For \$15, each child will receive a full-size gingerbread house and everything needed to decorate it. Youth Ministry teens will be on hand to give individual help to the younger children. Proceeds will be used for future YM activities and events. Grab a friend and join in the fun! Sign up sheets will be available at the doors of the church and in the parish offices in December.





## FAITH FORMATION

### Children's Live Nativity at 3:30 pm on Christmas Eve Prelude to the 4 pm Mass.

Children in grades K-I are invited to participate. All costumes are provided. Teens and parents are needed to assist the children at the rehearsal on Sat., Dec. 19th and at the reenactment of the Nativity on December 24th. To sign-up your children and/or to volunteer, log onto the parish website: [www.st-pats.org](http://www.st-pats.org). Look for *News & Updates* on the home page and click on *Children's Live Nativity Sign-Up*. Read the details then click on *Sign-Up*, the direct link to our Sign Up Genius page. Contact Ginny with questions at 973-635-0625 ext. 27 or [vsalvatore@st-pats.org](mailto:vsalvatore@st-pats.org).

### First Reconciliation Celebrations

Congratulations to the children who received the sacrament of First Reconciliation on Friday and Saturday. In January, they begin preparing to celebrate the sacrament of First Eucharist. During this time of preparation, we ask the community to keep them in your prayers.

**Faith Formation classes resume on December 6 & 7.** There is a special class, *Changes, Choices and Challenges: Respecting Sexuality* for all 8th graders Sunday night, December 6, in the Fr. Ed Center gym from 6:30—8:30 pm.

**Thank you** to all the children who donated a new toy for children in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

### Advent: Why Do We Wait? Why Are We Waiting?

### liturgy corner

Advent is a season of preparation: we shop for gifts, plan parties, and decorate our homes for the coming of Jesus Christ. We are bombarded by commercial messages in which the reason for Christmas-Emmanuel, "God with us"-is absent or overlooked. However, the rituals of our Catholic liturgies during this season can join us together with the People of God offering messages of challenge and hope and expressing our desire for God's presence in our midst.

Advent blends penitence, preparedness, and joy. We are called to consider our lives and to repent-or turn around-from those things that keep us from God. In this way, we repent and prepare for the Second Coming of the Lord. This theme of preparedness permeates the liturgies of Advent. Lastly we are called to be joyful as we get ready to celebrate the incarnation of our Savior in Bethlehem.

We wait for the coming of Christ in human history at Bethlehem, in our hearts each day, and at the end of time. The readings of Advent direct us to be prepared as we "do not know the hour or the day" of Christ's coming. But it is the present to which we should give our attention. Christ comes to us each day in word and sacrament, in prayer and grace, and through the people in his church. Can we try to be aware of his presence and power within our lives? Can we be open to his call and let him work through us in the world?

What is the message of Advent? For what are we waiting? Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus! Help us to know you, love you, and serve you. Increase our faith. Help us understand. Let us be your eyes, ears, and hands on earth. Let us show your love. Come!

**In order to prepare our hearts and souls for the coming of Our Lord, a parish penance service will be held on Tuesday, December 15 at 7 pm. Please set the time aside to ready your soul in the same way you are readying your house.**



## SAINT PATRICK SCHOOL

*Working Together to Challenge Minds and Foster Faith*

Please join us in celebrating Sunday mass with the St. Patrick School 6th graders on December 13 at 9 am. All school families are encouraged to attend and all students should wear their school uniform. There will be a reception with coffee and bagels after mass. All are invited.

### Preparations for Christmas are in full swing.

Santa Shop was a great success as always. Thanks to our great organizers!

The children turned in their items for Christmas in a Box. They happily did extra jobs around the house to pay for the items they donated.

- PK3-PK4 are busy practicing songs and lines for the PK3-PK4 Christmas Program.
- Grades K-3 are preparing for the Christmas Concert-especially the third graders who will take us on a trip to the Wild West to discover the meaning of Christmas.
- Our sixth graders are writing biographies to give as Christmas presents.
- Seventh graders are furiously writing and illustrating original Christmas Stories to give to their **Little Buddies**.
- The eighth graders are working on a special Christmas present.

Our second graders had their **First Reconciliation** this past week. They were quite excited especially since now they will begin preparations for First Eucharist. They are also happy to be spending more time with their 5th grade Big Buddies.

### Upcoming Events

**Thursday, December 10, 7 pm** –Lower Elementary (K-3)  
Christmas Concert

**Tuesday, December 15, 7 pm**-Band Christmas Concert

**Monday, December 21, 9 am**-PK3-PK4 Christmas Program

**Wednesday, December 23**-Christmas Fair, Dress UP day  
12:15 pm Dismissal

**December 24-January 3**-Christmas Vacation

**Monday, January 4, 9 am**-School re-opens

### Christmas Party

All parishioners are invited to the Knights of Columbus Christmas Party, Saturday, December 12! All you can eat and drink for \$25 per person. Festivities start at 7 pm at the William Paca Club in New Providence. Free rides available, courtesy of Joe Gardner of Chatham Coachmen. For information or to reserve space, contact John Caffrey at 201-463-7153 or [jcaffrey10@yahoo.com](mailto:jcaffrey10@yahoo.com).

**Procession for Life**-In honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, immediately following the 8 am Mass on Saturday, Dec. 12 at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 6 Sussex Ave., Morristown, a procession for life will take place. Please call 973-933-2800 for more information.

**All Are Welcome.** Join us as Msgr. John E. Hart discusses Pope Francis' recent changes to the annulment process Then hear from Vince and Monica Frese, of [DivorcedCatholic.com](http://DivorcedCatholic.com), who will share how they received God's abundant mercy during the difficult periods of their individual divorces and after. There is no cost to attend, but registration is requested. Call 973-539-2141 or visit [assumptionparish.org/divorced-catholics](http://assumptionparish.org/divorced-catholics) to register.

### Parish Support

NOVEMBER 22 OFFERING.....	\$17,598
LAST YEAR'S OFFERING.....	\$14,127
NOVEMBER 29 OFFERING.....	\$13,918
LAST YEAR'S OFFERING.....	\$14,206