



First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2017

Holy Mass  Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 2</b> Jennie Aielli and Adam Rosowicz
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 3</b> John Connelly and Ann McNicholas John Reedy and Patrick Sullivan Cyril DeSouza and Anna Gaydos Thomas Chiarello and Peggy Ann Reynolds
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 4</b> Catherine Datre and James Schneider
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 5</b> D. Thomas Tyrone and Mike D'Angiolillo
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 6</b> Lucy Toney and Susan Randolph
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 7</b> George Lacay and John Yuelling
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am  7:00 pm	<b>December 8</b> Ethel E. & Edwin L. Sprague, Jr. and Mark L. Brigham Mary Keppel and Deceased Women of Mary
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 9</b> Emily Allen and William Weichert, Jr. Deceased Members of the Desouza and Estrada Families and Mary C. Breheny
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am  11:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 10</b> Connie Pfulb and Gary Genovese Deceased Members of the Marino Family and Adam Rosowicz Anna Gaydos and Paul John Giovinazzo Rudy Cicchino and Patricia Ann Shelffo

**Mass Schedule December 9th & 10th**

**Fr. Bob** Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 5:00 pm  
**Fr. Dan** Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 11:00 am

**Reconciliation December 2**

**Fr. Dan** Saturday 4-4:30 pm

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

This Friday, 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. Masses will be celebrated in church at 8 am and 7 pm.

**Reconciliation Service**

*Join us as we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation while we wait for the coming of Jesus Christ.*

**Monday, December 11, 2017**  
**7:00 pm in the Church**

*Several priests will be available to celebrate the sacrament.*

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 10, 2017**

**First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11**

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for "the glory of the Lord to be revealed." Rather than looking only at God's power, Isaiah focuses on God's kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.

**Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14**

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

**Gospel: Mark 1:1-8**

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to "stoop and untie his sandal straps." John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he, who would walk among them.

**Weekly Memorials**

**The Lamp** burning before the Blessed Sacrament the week of December 3rd is in memory of deceased members of the Knights of Columbus.

**The Candles** on the altar the week of December 3rd are in memory of deceased members of the Women of Mary.

**The Flowers** on the altar the week of December 3rd are in memory of Christopher D'Ambrosio given by Patricia D'Ambrosio.

**Hear our Prayers for those who are ill** especially Anthony LaFerrara, Neiko Pagaling, Judy Latalladi, Carmela Cecere, Marie Conlan, Mike Mulane, Evey Staromano, Caroline Palluzzi, Don Tracy, Mary Cecere, Maddie Niebanck, Charlie Spencer, Eliot Leibowitz, Eileen Keohane, Laura Flynn, Josh Crucilla, Bob Moore, Donna Tracy, Dennis Kelly and **for all our deceased.**

**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

**Monday, December 4**

Faith Formation: 4:00 pm; School  
Rosary Group: 6:30 pm; Church  
Meditation Group: 7:00 pm; Church

**Thursday, December 7**

Walking With Purpose: 9:30 am; Parish Center  
Marian Prayer Group: 10:00 am; North Room  
Knights of Columbus: 8:30 pm; West Room

**Saturday, December 9**

Breakfast in Bethlehem: 9:00 am; Parish Center

**Sunday, December 10**

Chili Drop Off: Priests' Garage  
Faith Formation: 8:30 am; 10:15 am; Schools  
RCIA: 12 pm; South Room  
Grade 7 Faith Formation: 5:00 pm; Church



*From the Pastor's Desk*

### Finance Report 2016-17

A young college student was home for Thanksgiving break with tears in her eyes; her financial situation in college had gone extremely bad. "Dad, you gave me some terrible financial advice when I left home for college." "I did? What did I tell you?" said the student's dad. "You told me to put my money in that big bank, and now that big bank is in trouble." "What are you talking about? That's one of the largest banks in the state. There must be some mistake." "I don't think so!" the girl sniffled. "They just returned one of my checks with a note saying, "Insufficient Funds"."

Today begins the Season of Advent and 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, pay our bills, and function as a believing community with sufficient funds. It also provides 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 in that your recognition of needs to maintain a church makes known a commitment to support an objective that takes in countless responsibilities that include ongoing maintenance to the buildings, financial responsibilities to the Diocese, social outreach to the needy, and education to students in St. Patrick School, Faith Formation and Youth Ministry. It also permits us to make good on insurances, benefits, and salaries to employees of the Pastoral Staff and School Personnel.

The financial report for the 2016-17 year may be found in the back of today's bulletin as well as on our parish web site. It consists of a two year synopsis of income/expenses that includes Sunday collections, revenues from school tuition, Faith formation and Youth Ministry, plus the newly added collection for building and grounds which has been a great addition of revenue. Expenses in the report cover salaries and benefits for school and parish personnel, Diocesan Assessments, and administrative operating costs. There were numerous maintenance projects completed over the summer such as repairs to the walkway that borders the priest's residence that leads to Washington Avenue, the low level wall that parallels the rectory, and the steps and walkway that lead to the old church which is now used for P-K 3. Each of these were given a mighty facelift. Painting was done in the main school building coupled with new flooring that replaced an old carpet in the hallways of both floors. Questions and comments that pertain to this report are welcomed and appreciated. Please feel free to contact me, or our finance/business manager Mrs. Colleen Sofronas, [csotronas@st-pats.org](mailto:csotronas@st-pats.org) for any clarification of the report.

Today's Gospel which inaugurates the Season of Advent comes from Mark. It introduces the parable of the absent householder with an invitation to promote the common good rather than personal fancies. In this special Season, the Gospel message invites us to follow a road less traveled that is counter-cultural as it reminds us to "stay awake." Since our gifts and possessions come from God's graces, we are called to share, serve, and be part of a worshipping community. This encourages us to offer time to serve, or volunteer in a particular ministry in that each of us is blessed with a unique talent that renders opportunities to benefit the parish in ways that assist the church so that income is used to benefit all who belong to St. Patrick Church as well as our partnership parish in Paterson, Our Lady of Victories.

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, this year's Bishop's Appeal, and increased offertory donations through the Sunday Visitor Campaign which took place last Spring. May God bless your Advent Season with the Lord's peace.

*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.

**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).



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December 3, 2017



## AROUND THE PARISH

### Baptisms

**Sloane Leila Valenti**  
Daughter of Daniel and Stefanie

### Marriage



Congratulations to **Kathleen MacAuliffe** and **Michael Donahue** united in the Sacrament of Matrimony, Saturday, November 25, 2017.  
May the Lord richly bless their union.

### **Please Give to Those Who Have Given a Lifetime**

Next weekend, December 9 & 10, we will hold our annual Retired Religious Collection. Your donation helps the religious community provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. We are honored to have Sr. Margaret Foster and Mr. Terry Sweeney speak to us next weekend about the people in religious orders who have touched countless lives. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious collection next weekend.

### **BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM**

*This wonderful community event is back on Dec 9<sup>th</sup>.*

The Knights of Columbus graciously provide the breakfast and a team of elf volunteers from St. Patrick Youth Ministry have planned a fun-filled morning! This free event takes place 9am – 11 am in the Gym. Crafts, games, activities, and holiday fun – Bring the family!



### **PARISH NURSE MINISTRY**

*Saint Patrick Parish*

### **Some Tips for Coping with Grief at the Holidays**

1. Set realistic expectations for yourself. Remind yourself that this year is different. Decide if you can still handle the responsibilities you've had in the past. Examine the tasks and events of celebrating and ask yourself if you want to continue them. Take others up on offers to cook, shop, decorate, etc. Consider shopping by phone, internet or catalogs this year.
2. Surround yourself with people who love and support you. Share your plans with family and friends and let them know of any intended changes in holiday routine. Memories can sometimes be a source of comfort to the bereaved. Share your memories with others of holidays spent with your loved one by telling stories and looking at photo albums.

## **Eva's Village**

**New Sign Up and Drop off Dates ~ for this month only!**

This weekend sign 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 today.** Take a set of the pans provided with the accompanying recipe and instructions then return the two pans of chili you've prepared and **frozen** next weekend to the freezers in the priest's garage by 11:30 am. It's that easy! The food we provide is much needed and greatly appreciated. (Early drop off can be made to the parish offices during regular business hours.)

### **Forget-Me-Not Weekend**

Our monthly food collection is *this* weekend, **December 2 & 3**. Your generous donations are shared with the local community as well as our brothers and sisters in Paterson! All food donations (your bags or ours!) can be brought to the Fr. Ed Center after masses or the basket in the back of church. *Thank you!*

### **Good Deeds Manger**

Once again we will have the Good Deeds Manger as part of our preparation throughout Advent. People are asked to put a promise of a good deed on a yellow piece of paper (representing straw) to build a thick bed for the baby Jesus.

*This advent season, why not join us for prayer and/or meditation on Monday evenings? We pray the rosary every Monday at 6:30 pm and join together for meditation at 7:00 pm in the church. Please note that on December 11, the Rosary group and Meditation group will meet in the South Room instead of the Church due to the communal penance service.*

## **FAITH FORMATION**

### **December Faith Formation Classes**

**Grades K-6: December 3 & 4; 10 & 11; 17 & 18**

**Grade 7: December 10**

**Grade 8: December 3 & 17**

### **Toy Collection**

Faith Formation will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children in need. Please bring a new toy to class on Dec. 3 & 4. Teens in Grade 7 can bring a toy on Dec. 10. The toys will be distributed within the Paterson Diocese including members of Our Lady of Victories and to local families in need.

**Congratulations to our Children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this Friday and Saturday!**

## **2017 Bishops Annual Appeal**

As you plan to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season by giving gifts to your friends and loved ones, there is one gift that you can give to tens of thousands of people. It does not require ten thousand name tags or ten thousand bows. All that's needed is a completed pledge card to the Bishop's Annual Appeal or an online gift at [www.2017appeal.org](http://www.2017appeal.org). Say "Merry Christmas" to so many of your brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Paterson who need some hope and joy in their lives by participating in the Bishop's Annual Appeal today. May God bless you for your generosity!



## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **This Week in Youth Ministry**

Winter Antioch Team Meeting: Tues., Dec. 5; 7-9:30 pm, YMC

#### **Service Opportunities:**

Sign up by emailing Maggie at [mgrady@st-pats.org](mailto:mgrady@st-pats.org)

*Breakfast in Bethlehem:* Sat., Dec. 9; 8:45 am-12pm. Help with Tattoos, crafts, games, nail polish. Also in need of a few Teens to lead caroling.

*Gingerbread Workshop:* Sat., Dec. 16, 10:30am-12pm; Parish Center (*shifts 9:15-11:15am and 11 am-1pm*)

*Food Pantry Restock:* Sat., Dec. 16; 8:30-10:15 am

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

### **1 + 1 = 10: Peace on Earth this Christmas!**

One parish choir, plus one more parish choir...that would be twice as big and twice as good, right? No! How about 10 times the total? Not even that - it is a perfect 10 for unity, love, and the magic that results from caring to work together to share our gifts. This weekend, the annual Christmas Concert titled "Peace to the World" will be held first at St. Patrick, and again at Christ the King in New Vernon. This is not the choir on a typical Sunday - you would pay to hear this in the city, but it is free in Chatham and New Vernon! The concert is the result of months of hard work plus the ingredient of Love. The music has been selected for its uniqueness, appeal, magic, and in some cases, its popularity. The choirs of St. Patrick and Christ the King, along with the youth handbell choir from St. Patrick, several instrumentalists, organ, harp, piano, drums, and two wonderful directors, are presenting a musical panorama of carols from all around the world. You will be dazzled, touched, mesmerized, and amazed. You will be surrounded by love, joy, and the message of peace that rings loud and clear. Then you will realize that you know the performers; they are part of your parish family. How did we achieve this magic?  $1+1=10$  when you mix it with God's love and the gifts he has bestowed upon us.

The opening piece, selected in honor of St. Patrick, is an ancient Gaelic carol called "That Night in Bethlehem," or "Don oiche ud i mbeithil." the haunting music speaks of the whispering snow and darkness surrounding the little manger, and the miracle lying in the bed of hay. You will hear more carols from Catalonia, Finland, Wales, England, Poland, Germany, Italy, Russia, Brazil, Nigeria and even Iraq! Some carols will captivate your imagination, while others you have known since you were young. Our message is that God is in all of us, and the language of music can unite us in our longing for peace.

Please bring your family and children. The concert is free, open to the public and guaranteed to lift your spirits and fill you with hope!

### **Save the Date! February 3, 2018**

St. Pat's Saturday Seminar continues in 2018 with an educational session on Estate Planning, Long Term Care insurance and Power of Attorney information from 9 am-12 pm. More info to follow!

### **Christmas Season Hymns from the Cathedral**

In commemoration of the renovation and reopening of the Cathedral of John the Baptist, the diocese is offering a Christmas Carol CD created with musicians from the diocese. To order the CD of 8 popular and traditional Christmas carols for \$12.50, please contact Tom Kieren at 973-214-6473 or [pastoral140@earthlink.net](mailto:pastoral140@earthlink.net).



## **SAINT PATRICK SCHOOL**

*Working Together to Challenge Minds and Foster Faith*

St. Patrick School students have been busy with various Thanksgiving activities. Pre-Kindergarten students have learned about the first Thanksgiving and the differences between how this holiday is celebrated today versus long ago. The students took part in various centers that brought to life the chores the Pilgrims and Native Americans might have done to prepare for the first Thanksgiving (i.e.: building a log cabin, harvesting plants, fishing game on the SMART board, Native American corn paint prints, etc.).

The Transitional Kindergarten students have experimented with color: combining colored water, painting with watercolor, as well as exploring pH and color. They also cooked their own Thanksgiving feast.

Fifth grade students have begun researching various Native American tribes. Their research will be used in future class presentations.

This is the time of year we reflect on what we are most thankful for. The faculty and staff of St. Patrick School are grateful for such wonderful students and their families, parishioners, alumni, and friends. St. Patrick School would not be the incredible place it is today without all of you.

## ***Spiritual Adoption***

### **Month 2: December 2, 2017**

The developing baby is now called a "fetus" which is Latin for "little one". Rapid progress is occurring in the development of all external and internal organs. During the second month, teeth form and fingers and toes are developing. Ears, nose, lips, and tongue can clearly be seen and brain waves can be recorded. The baby's skeleton changes from cartilage to bone and the central nervous system is now functioning, so forty muscle sets begin their first exercises. By 8 weeks, all body systems are present. This little one is now jumping, flipping, and turning!

***Please continue to pray for your spiritually adopted baby!***

## **Simbang Gabi sa Corpus Christi**

***(Advent Novena Masses)***

Corpus Christi Parish in Chatham Township, NJ will be hosting the Filipino tradition of nine-novena Masses from December 15-23, 2017 at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to the Eucharistic celebration which will be in English. Please come and invite your friends and family to join a spiritual offering in preparation for celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus!

For any questions, please contact:

Fr. Lem Camacho at (973) 635-0070 ext. 6 or

[lcamacho@corpuschristi.org](mailto:lcamacho@corpuschristi.org)

Ms. Jennie Braza at [jennie.braza@gmail.com](mailto:jennie.braza@gmail.com)

## **Parish Support-November 29, 2017**

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING.....\$15,772  
LAST YEAR'S OFFERING.....\$17,272

## **Buildings and Grounds**

THIS MONTH'S OFFERING.....\$ 5,035  
LAST YEAR'S OFFERING.....\$ 1,877