

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent



Saturday, December 8

5:30 pm For Arthur Wendell Fritts by Vanderhoof Family

Sunday, December 9

9:00 am For Sandra Casablanca by Rich & Marianne Nyman
11:00 am For Alexander Dominick Gorini in honor of his Baptism today by Mike & Nancy Lennon

Monday, December 10

8:45 am For

Tuesday, December 11

8:45 am For Elizabeth Feldhusen by Parishioners of St. Mark's

Wednesday, December 12

8:45 am For Jim Galvin by Stokes Family

Thursday, December 13

8:45 am For Stephen Nichols by Paula Field

Saturday, December 15

5:30 pm For Raymond Anthony McCarthy, Jr. by Lennon Family

Sunday, December 16

9:00 am For Robert Di Clemente & Grazia Marchese by Anthony & Lina Cresci and Jean DiClemente

Thomas Tell by Susan Reilly

11:00 am For Carl Fania by Fania Family and Pasqualina Carbone by McGrath Family

REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Altar Breads & Wine: In loving memory of Aeneas and Genevieve Corry by Corry/Benardone family

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry/Benardone family

Mass Candles:

MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 15, 16, 2018

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski
Lector: Tom Morley
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Scarda
Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Javier Bareno
Lector: Katie Van Woert
Eucharistic Ministers: Gina & Paul Tupaczewski
Altar Servers: Help Needed

11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Javier Bareno
Lector: Al & David Escudero
Eucharistic Ministers: Angel Nowak, Nick Caruso, Susan Reilly
Altar Server: Help Need

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, December 10

8:45 am Mass
4:30 pm CEC K-5
7:30 pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 11

8:45 am Mass
6:15 pm Family Faith Formation
8:00 pm K of C Meeting

Wednesday, December 12

8:45 am Mass
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, December 13

Angel gifts for DYFS children due today
8:45 am Mass

Friday, December 14

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 15

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
5:30 pm Mass
Columbiettes Christmas Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 16

9:00 & 11:00 am Mass
SYM

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2017
December 2, 2018: \$2,083 Parish Debt Reduction: \$953	December 3, 2017: \$2,500 Parish Debt Reduction: \$763
Supermarket Gift Cards: December 2, 2018 Sales: \$1,950 Profit \$97.50 2018 YTD Profit \$5,945 2017 YTD Profit: \$7,922 # Families 9	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Mark the Evangelist, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season.

Signing up is easy! Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484**, or **text the word ENROLL** to (Text-to-Give Phone Number).

Already using Faith Direct? Log in to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account, or text a dollar amount to (Text-to-Give Phone Number) to make a one-time gift today!

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.
God Bless You, Fr. Marcin

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Today we celebrate 2nd Sunday of Advent. The very word "Advent" means "arrival" or "coming" and Jesus is the One whose Advent or arrival or coming we await. Jesus will come to us this Advent and Christmas if we make room for him in the inn of our hearts. Jesus is already with us, always with us, but Advent is a time of grace to recognize more than ever that we can have more of Jesus in our lives, that we can make more room for Jesus, that Jesus is the One for whom we really long as the answer to all our longings and questions. Advent is a grace-filled season to spend more time with Jesus to allow him to answer our needs and problems and wishes.

Jesus will come to us this Advent and Christmas if we make room for him in the inn of our hearts, if we create a desert in our lives so that we can hear the voice of God without distractions, if we carve out a place of peace and quiet in the busyness of our lives to give space and time to Jesus every day.

Do we recognize the voice of the Lord speaking to us when we listen to the word of God in Scripture? Luke the evangelist tells us that the "word of God came to John in the wilderness". John the Baptist helped people to "Prepare the way of the Lord." How can we, like John the Baptist, prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus Christ - today and everyday and when he comes again to bring us fully into his everlasting kingdom?

John the Baptist tells us that the first step is conversion and repentance. Conversion involves receiving God's word into our heart and mind and allowing his Word to change our attitudes and wrong ways of thinking and judging. Repentance is the deliberate turning away from sin (wrong-doing) and turning to God to receive his pardon, healing, and strength to do what is good and reject what is wrong.

"Lord Jesus, you are the Word of God and the Savior of the world. Help me to receive your Word with expectant faith, and to live it with confident hope, and to proclaim it joyfully with love and boldness to all I meet."

CONFESSION DURING ADVENT SEASON HELPS US ENJOY CHRISTMAS

During this special season of spiritual renewal God is waiting for us in the sacrament of reconciliation. As we examine our consciences this Advent and see our shortcomings we are privileged to receive the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Our Advent Penance Service will be held at OLM CHURCH on Wednesday, December 19 at 7PM.** Sacrament of Reconciliation in our parish is celebrated every Saturday night at 5pm & Sunday 10am-11am, and during Holy Hour every second Monday of the month at OLM CHURCH 7pm-8pm. Parents have the special responsibility to direct their children to the sacrament in preparation for Christmas.

Join us for quiet time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament this coming Monday (Dec.10) at OLM CHURCH. We begin at 7pm. **HOLY HOUR – MAKE MORE ROOM FOR JESUS DURING THIS HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT.**

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL REPORT

11/20.2018 – Goal: \$10,000.00 – so far pledged: \$13,540.00 – donors: 74

11/21/2017 – Goal: \$10,000.00 – last year pledged at the same time: \$18,149.00 – donors: 91

Difference: -\$4,609.00

Thank you very much for your generosity! If you did not have a chance to make donation to this year Bishop's Annual Appeal please if you can make a pledge or donation and help our diocese and our

parish get a credit. Envelopes are located in the gathering room. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!

Our Christmas Concert last Sunday was great!!! Thank you very much to our Music Ministry, Choir and our music director Kristen O'Shea. GOOD JOB! GOD BLESS YOU!

Advent Reflection --- Wednesday --- 7pm --- OLM Parish Center.

A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths".

St. Mark our patron – pray for us...

Our Lady of the Mountain – pray for us...

Fr. Marcin

AGING RELIGIOUS NEED YOUR HELP...

Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli – December 15

Laywoman (1587 – 1651)

Virginia Centurione was born to a noble family of Genoa. Though she was attracted to religious life, her parents arranged her marriage at fifteen to Caspar Bracelli. While he matched her noble lineage, he differed from his wife in every other way, and their marriage was unhappy. Virginia tried in vain to curb his dissolute ways. When after five years he died, leaving her with two young daughters, she refused her family's efforts to arrange a second marriage and took a vow of celibacy.

While raising her daughters, she began to undertake the charitable work that would increasingly occupy her. This began with the rescue of an abandoned girl, whom she found lying in the street and brought into her own home. Eventually she founded a school for orphans. When her daughters married, she devoted all her time and resources to the school and founded an order of teachers to maintain it. During an outbreak of plague she purchased a building that housed as many as three hundred patients.

Virginia died on December 15, 1651. She was canonized in 2003.

"St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli leaves the Church the witness of a simple and active saint. Her example of courageous fidelity to the Gospel also continues to exert a powerful influence on people in our time. She used to say: when God is one's only goal, 'all disagreements are smoothed out, all difficulties overcome.' "

- Pope John Paul II

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

The Sacramental Sacrifice Thanksgiving, Memorial, Presence

My dear brothers and sisters the sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: *"The victim is one and the same: the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different."* *"In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same*

Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner."

The Eucharist is also the sacrifice of the Church. The Church which is the Body of Christ participates in the offering of her Head. With him, she herself is offered whole and entire. She unites herself to his intercession with the Father for all men. In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of his Body. The lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayer, and work, are united with those of Christ and with his total offering, and so acquire a new value. Christ's sacrifice present on the altar makes it possible for all generations of Christians to be united with his offering.

In the catacombs the Church is often represented as a woman in prayer, arms outstretched in the praying position. Like Christ who stretched out his arms on the cross, through him, with him, and in him, she offers herself and intercedes for all men. God bless you!

FOOD PANTRY STATUS...

St. Mark's donated \$830 in gift cards, plus several bags of food items. That certainly made an enormous difference in the lives of many families.

Unfortunately, we are about to enter the critical winter season. There are lots of demands on us at this time of year, but let's not forget our neighbors in need. Nourishing food items such as hearty soups, baby food, hot cereals, coffee/tea, etc., would be especially helpful – but, as always, anything you can donate will be greatly appreciated. Best wishes for a blessed season for the Long Valley Food Pantry!

PARISH FUNDRAISING EVENTS...

AMAZON SMILES-YOU SHOP AMAZON DONATES...

Buy your gifts and essentials at smile.amazon.com during the Christmas season and all year round! You shop. Amazon donates. Here's how: Visit smile.amazon.com to complete your Christmas and year round shopping. Type in "St. Mark the Evangelist Church Long Valley, NJ" under "Select a Charity". 0.5% of your purchase goes to St. Mark's at no cost to you!

NEW YEARS DAY 5K RUN...

As a great way to welcome in the New Year, St. Mark's Church is once again hosting our New Year's Day 5K. Last year this event raised over \$4,000 for St. Marks. This year we hope to double that amount and have made some upgrades to this wonderful 5K on January 1 – USATF certification and a professional timing system. So as you begin to make your holiday plans, please consider participating in St. Mark's New Year's Day 5K

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 5 K RUN...

From 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. You do not have to come for the whole time any help would be appreciated. Key times for help are 11:00 am and 12:00 pm to get the runners out and started and help with the turns on the route.

L.V. COLUMBIETTES CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE...

The Long Valley Columbiettes will be selling delicious, homemade Christmas cookies after all masses in the gathering space for the weekend of December 15/16. Thanking you in advance for your support which will benefit many others.

DIVISION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES (DYFS) CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE...

Our Angel tree is up. If you would like to donate a gift for a child who is currently in the Morris County Foster Child program, please take an angel, write the number and name of child in the book and return your unwrapped gift by **Thursday December 13.**

WALK FOR LIFE...

The Long Valley Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a bus trip to Washington DC for "Walk for Life" on Friday, January 18th. Bus will be leaving from the Chester Shoprite. Time and cost to be determined. If you are interested please contact Mike Lennon at mike.lennon@comcast.net.

HO, HO, HO, SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN...

Come join Santa for a Christmas sing-along, photos, and crafts. Festivities take place on Dec. 16 from 12:45 pm-2:30 pm at St. Joseph School cafeteria, located at 8 W. Main St. Mendham. FREE OF CHARGE. For information call 973-543-7474, ext. 7 www.sjsmendham.org.

HURRICANE RELIEF NEEDED...

Those affected by Hurricane Michael in the Florida panhandle are still in great need. Catholic Charities is on the ground providing aid to all those in need. But they could use our help. Every gift, at every level, makes a difference. 100% of your donation will support their disaster relief and recovery efforts. If you can help, please mail your donation to Catholic Charities of Northwest Florida/Hurricane Relief. You can mail it to PO Box 6330, Pensacola, FL. 32503. They also can be reached at ccnwf.org/hurricane-michael. Thank you.



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Matthew Augustine, Kenneth Bernisky, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Emily Condit, Naalia Danilczuk, Jerry Devine, Krish Dharia, Catherine DiPasquale, Neil Donohue, Elizabeth, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaine Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Jerry Green, Barbara Gotterdam, David Guemond,, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Joey, Jim Karpinski, Dana Karpinski, John, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Rocky Labato, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Maryann Litori, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Madelyn Maruggi, , Jonathon McClelland, Anna McFarland, Harold & Mary McKay, Edward Michonski Sr., Kathy Minichini, Faith Morelli, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Josh Olsen, Jim Owens, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Pilosi, Laurie Pitcock, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Donald Schmitt, Jeff Schpiner, Ann Sentfinger, George Sentfinger,, Bill Siegrist, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, Cindy Sullivan, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau,, Patricia Villano, Anne Walsh

