

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2016

Sunday, December 11

7:30 am † James Jones

9:00 am † For Persecuted Christians

11:00 am † For The Parish

Monday, December 12

12:00 pm † Julie Ewers

Tuesday, December 13

12:00 pm † Dr. Joseph Veith

Wednesday, December 14

12:00 pm † Jean McCormick

Thursday, December 15

12:00 pm † Thomas & Emily Brewer

Friday, December 16

12:00 pm † Daniel K. Jenkins

Saturday, December 17

5:00 pm † Jeanette Toomey

There will be **Confessions** heard for Christmas after each of the morning Masses on Sunday, December 18.

St. Ann's Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24:

4:30pm *Prelude of Carols*

5:00pm *Children's Christmas Pageant w/ Brass and Choir*

7:30pm *Prelude of Carols*

8:00pm *Brass and Choir*

Christmas Day: Sunday December 25:

7:30am

9:00am (*Organ and Cantor*)

11:00am (*Choir*)

St. Ann's New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve: Saturday, December 31: 5:00pm

New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1, 2017:

7:30am

9:00am (*Organ and Cantor*)

11:00am (*Organ and Cantor*)

Sick Calls: Please email us at stann@stanndc.org, to notify the Pastor of any sick, homebound or those hospitalized, so that we may arrange to bring them the Eucharist or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Online Giving: Our online giving system is also an App for Apple products! You can download it and use it even if you already give through Online Giving or are new and want to create an account. Go to the App Store or OLGapp.com/IOS to download and then register by entering our church ID: **Stann103**



Saint Ann's Parish
Online Giving

Electronic Giving has become easier.

Thank you for using our Online Giving program at Saint Ann's Parish. Your participation allows us to effectively manage monthly expenses based on your consistent support. We encourage you to share with fellow parishioners how safe, secure and easy it is to participate in our Saint Ann's Online Giving program.

If you are not yet a participant, our Online Giving system will provide you a convenient option that you may access at any time. Your gift will be transferred from your credit card or bank account directly to Saint Ann's Church. No need to share any sensitive account information. To sign-up, please visit www.stanndc.org and click on the Financial Support icon and then click on the Online Giving logo and create an account. If you have questions, call the church's office at, (202) 966-6288 or OSV (Our Sunday Visitor) at 1-800-348-2886 ext.4. Relatively soon, the parish will be shifting from OSV services to Faith Direct which is a better program for online giving for the parish and for you.

Thank you for your continued support!

Please Pray for the Sick, especially, Maureen Cullen Fitzgerald Zabatta, Margaret Singh, Olga Paez, Marian Fleming, Franklin Ponce, Curt Carnemark, Virginia Battle, Robert Raczynski, Nancy Clasen, Wanda Olechowski, Elizabeth Schumacher, Margaret Walls, Sarah Ziegler, John Finley, Tony Vegetabile, Betty Cole Dukert, and all who are ill and confined to hospitals and homes.

Calling All Angels and Shepherds! St. Ann's welcomes your child's participation in the **Christmas Eve pageant at the 5:00pm Mass (new time this year) on Dec. 24.** Children ages pre-kindergarten and older can participate as a shepherd, a magi, or in other non-speaking roles. We also need petition readers (grades 4 and higher) and greeters. Interested parties please email Patty Sucato (patty4714@aol.com) and put "Christmas Pageant" in the subject line. Pageant rehearsal on Friday, December 23 at 5:00pm in the Church and Christmas Eve at 4:00pm in the Collins room.

New Parishioners: If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with the parish. Registration forms are available at the main entrance of the Church or from the Rectory Office. Completed forms may be returned by dropping them in the Sunday collection basket, mailed, or brought to the Rectory. Please let us know if you are relocating or moving away by dropping a note or calling the Rectory Office at (202) 966-6288.

Year-End Contributions: As we come to the end of the year, please remember your generous donation to St. Ann's Church. God bless you for all you do to help the parish to address repairs to the church, rectory, school, and convent properties. Upon request, the parish secretary would be happy to provide you a tally of your 2016 contributions for tax purposes.

Volunteers Needed: St. Ann's is looking for volunteers to decorate the church for the Christmas season. If you are interested, please contact Deborah Kemp at Deborah.Kemp@live.com with your availability. We are decorating on Monday, December 12 at 3:00pm and Tuesday, December 13 from 9:00am to 11:00am in the church. Thank you for helping our church look beautiful for Christmas!

The Spirit of Love: Marriage Enrichment Retreat
In celebration of World Marriage Day, St. Michael the Archangel Church in Silver Spring, MD (805 Wayne Ave.) will host a Marriage Enrichment Retreat on Saturday, February 11, 2017. *The Spirit of Love* is a Marriage Enrichment Retreat designed and presented by Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center and Center for Family Development. The retreat day will close with a special Mass, including renewal of marriage vows for retreat participants. The cost of the retreat is \$50 per couple and includes continental breakfast, lunch, and a marriage enrichment workbook. To register for the retreat, email St. Michael Parish at smacc.marriage@gmail.com.

Respect Life News: "Seven jurisdictions in the United States have now opened the legal door to this dangerous abuse of medicine, [doctor-prescribed suicide] an alarming trend that must be stopped for the sake of human dignity and the sacredness of life." In Colorado, on election day Proposition 106, a ballot question, was passed by the voters, legalizing "the ability of a doctor" to prescribe a lethal drug "for the sole purpose of killing another human being; it also empowers "insurance companies to refuse treatment of patients they consider terminal. The DC "Death with Dignity Act" is the most expansive and dangerous so far. It goes beyond assisted suicide by allowing third parties to administer the lethal drugs opening the door even further to coercion and abuse." The act of prescribing a fatal drug "moreover, undermines the very heart of medicine. Doctors vow to do no harm, and yet assisted suicide is the ultimate abandonment of their patients." Seriously ill and—often depressed—patients need authentic support including doctors fully committed to their welfare and pain management as they enter their final days....A compassionate society devotes more attention, not less, to members facing the most vulnerable times in their lives. So doctor-assisted suicide must now be opposed with renewed vigor. Catholics must join medical professional, disability groups, and other concerned citizens in fighting for the authentic care of those facing terminal illness" (from a November 21 statement by Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, Chairman of the US Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-life Activities).

The Franciscan Monastery: Holy Land in Washington, DC, is part of the Franciscan Custody (province) that has served the people and shrines in the Holy Land for 800 years. This Christmas, please keep the Franciscan friars and parishioners in Syria in your prayers as they struggle to keep our Catholic faith alive in the midst of the war that has engulfed this second cradle of Christianity: call 202-526-6800 x895.

Luminarias at the Franciscan Monastery: Honor your loved ones this Christmas by dedicating a luminaria at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land. They will be remembered in the friars' prayers and names will be placed on the candles that will illuminate the beautiful Rosary Portico from Christmas Eve to New Year's Eve. Come for the blessing and lighting at 1pm on Christmas Eve (1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC) and for an open house on Dec. 27, 4:30 to 5:15pm, followed by Mass, or visit anytime. Order at fmgg.org or contact Joe Bozik, 202-244-4833 and gardenguild@gmail.com; \$10 donation is requested.

Christmas at the Monastery: Christmas comes alive at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land. Bring the family for a free tour of the church and see full-size replicas of the Annunciation and Nativity Grottos from the Holy Land. On Christmas Eve, join the friars and their helpers at 1:00pm for the blessing and lighting of 1,000 luminaria candles illuminating the monastery's outdoor Rosary Portico and, after Midnight Mass, join a procession to place the infant Jesus at the Nativity Grotto. The Franciscan Monastery is located at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017 (free parking/Brookland-CUA Metro/H6 bus). Information: myfranciscan.org or call 202-526-6800.

Blessing of the Bambinelli and Lighting of the Christmas Tree at the National Shrine: This year the National Shrine will host its annual Blessing of the Bambinelli and Lighting of the Christmas Tree on Sunday, December 18 at the 4:30pm Mass. Bring the Baby Jesus from your Nativity scene to be blessed at the National Shrine on this Fourth Sunday of Advent. This annual tradition in St. Peter's Square features the Pope offering a special blessing after his weekly Angelus for all those who brought their Bambinelli. Following the Mass and Blessing of the Bambinelli, the National Shrine will bless and ceremonially light the Christmas Tree as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. Please come for this special opportunity to start your Christmas week! No tickets or reservations are required. The Basilica is located at 400 Michigan Ave NE, offers ample free parking, and is walking distance from the Brookland-CUA Station on Metro's Red Line. For more information please call (202) 526-8300.

Annunciation Catholic School: Invites you and your family to join us on Friday December 16th for a Christmas Pageant at 5:30pm followed by a traditional Italian dinner fund raiser. The concert is free, and tickets for the dinner are \$10 per plate at the door, or you go online at www.annunciationschool.net
All proceeds go to support Annunciation Catholic School's "Sponsor a Child" campaign.

National Shrine's Christmas Dinner for Those In Need: The Basilica of the National Shrine will sponsor dinner for those who are alone or in need on, December 25. Volunteers are needed to assist in preparing, serving, and delivering meals as well as assisting with other logistics. Those interested in volunteering can sign-up online at www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner or by calling the Basilica at 202-526-8300.