

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2017

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners:

I pray that this Holy Season of Advent has been a time of Grace for all of us. I want to thank all of you for making this parish such a beautiful place to be. The amount of gifts you gave from our *Advent Giving Tree* and all the food and money donated to make Christmas a little extra special for those in need is truly inspiring.

We come now to the Fourth Sunday of Advent. With Christmas only hours away we are given the beautiful Gospel of the Annunciation. All the centuries of waiting throughout the Old Testament for the coming of Christ was brought to fulfillment when Mary responds to the astounding invitation by God delivered through the Angel Gabriel to become the Mother of His Divine Son with the words that changed the world forever: *"Let it be done to me according to your word."* At that moment the Eternal Word of God became Flesh and began to dwell among us in Mary's womb.

Isn't it an amazing thing that the Almighty God made His plan for our salvation depend on the consent of a poor and humble virgin from a tiny little town called Nazareth? It is the heart of Mary – pure, humble, obedient to the Will of God and filled with faith and trust in Him – that gave access to the Son of God to be born into our world. Mary teaches me that my life is not all about me and my plans, but about God and His plans. Saint Mother Theresa would say: *"Give God permission to do something beautiful for our world with your life."* If we could only have the faith and trust in God that Mary had, and the humility to submit our own will to His, we would begin to see that nothing is impossible for God - not even God becoming man and being born as an infant lying in a manger wrapped in the rags of the poorest of the poor.

"Glory to God in the Highest and Peace to His People on Earth," the Angels proclaimed at the birth of Christ. Our world is in desperate need of His Peace. And I pray that His Peace may be yours in abundance this Christmas and always. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,
Rev. Matthew J. Furey



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT THE ADVENT WREATH

Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

O Lord, stir up your might and come. Aid us with your powerful assistance so that, through your grace and merciful forgiveness, we may attain salvation which now is hindered by our sins; you who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit; one God forever and ever. (Someone lights all the candles.)

WELCOME BISHOP LAGRONEGRO

We wish to welcome and thank Bishop Lagronegro for being the Main Celebrant and Homilist for our 11:30am Christmas Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2017

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24 for Christmas

4:00pm in the Church and School

5:30pm in the Church Only

12:00am Midnight Mass

(Choir sings at 11:30pm)

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25

7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am,

11:30am, 1:00pm

THERE WILL BE NO 5:30PM MASS ON
CHRISTMAS DAY

(December 26, 9am Morning Mass Only)

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Monday, January 1st, 2018

8:30AM, 10:00AM,

11:30AM

1:00PM

NO 5:30PM MASS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

3rd Sunday of Advent –\$15,497.

Last Year's Collection –\$15,150.

Merry

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I want to express from my heart my sincere prayers for a very blessed Christmas for all of you and your families. Your goodness to our Parish is so much appreciated.

Our celebration of Christmas has added fervor this year as it is the 150th since the founding of our Parish in 1868. What a blessing it is for me to be the Pastor of this beautiful Parish at this momentous time, and for all of us to be a part of its' rich history and tradition.

In the Gospel of St. Luke read at the Christmas Midnight mass we hear the Angels proclaim to the Shepherds: *"Today in the City of David a Saviour is born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be sign for you, you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."* How good is our God. As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI put it so beautifully: *"God is so great that He can become small. God is so powerful that He can make himself vulnerable and come to us as a defenseless child, so that we can love Him. God is so good that He can give up His Divine splendor and come down to a stable, so that we might find Him."*

How much our world needs to find Him. How much we need His Peace in our world, in our families and in our hearts. Let me leave you with this beautiful prayer to the Infant Jesus composed by Saint Pope John XXIII: *"O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of all people this Peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately, and which you alone can give them. Help us to know one another better and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness and purity. Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Unite us all in charity, and grant us your Heavenly Peace."*

Once again on behalf of myself, Father Innocent and our Rectory Staff, Merry Christmas!

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Matthew J. Furey

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 24

Monday, December 25 – Merry Christmas

Tuesday, December 26

Office Closed

Saturday, December 30

St. Joseph Group – 7:30am in the Rectory

Sunday, December 31 – Holy Family

Christmas!

VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

Dear Fr. Furey,

During this blessed season when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Village Board and Staff, wish to extend to you and the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church, our sincere wishes for a joyous Christmas filled with hope and peace. May you all have a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely, Edward Markunas, Mayor

SACRED HEART RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

May the Christ Child Bless our Parish Family
with Peace and Joy

on Christmas and throughout the New Year.

With Love & Prayers,

Sacred Heart

Religious Education Program

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We wish to thank the many parishioners who contributed food, money or effort during the year to help us in our mission. Our efforts reflect **your generosity** to the many less fortunate as we strive to help them in Christ's name.

OUR LADY'S GUILD

Our Lady's Guild wishes to thank all our friends and parishioners who donated gifts for the Birthright. We would like to wish them and all of our parish family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

The Faculty, staff and administration of the school wish to extend their best wishes during this Christmas season. May all members of the Sacred Heart School and Parish community have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

SALESIAN COMMUNITY OF DON BOSCO PREP

On behalf of all of us here at Don Bosco Prep, we wish you and your loved ones a very blessed Christmas with health and happiness in the New Year.

Fr. Jim Heuser

Director/President

AUGUSTINIAN RECOLLECTS

The Community of Tagaste Monastery wishes you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Peace, Joy and Hope to you and to your loved ones
this Christmas Season!**

**La comunidad del Monasterio de Tagaste le desea
una Santa Navidad y Feliz Año Nuevo**

**Paz, Gozo y Esperanza a usted y todos sus seres
queridos en la Navidad!**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Joyce Kilmer Council of the Knights of Columbus wish all the parishioners of Sacred Heart a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

ANUNCIOS

El Grupo de Oración en Español tiene lugar habitualmente los miércoles, a las 8 de la noche en la cafetería.

Los próximos bautizos en español tendrán lugar el 13 de enero 2017 a la 1pm. Contactar en el 357-0035.



We pray for all those serving in the **Armed Forces** and for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: **Merrie Alfieri, Frank Paul Allegretti, Luciano Antonucci, Jenna Applebaum, Michael Brady, Annette Burbridge, Kelly Collins, Dolores Cangelose, Frank Calfa, Joh Carlough, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Lorraine Cortez, Robert Cosenza, Joe Davey, Lilla DiBerardino, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, Lucy Donlon, John Duffy, Nicholas Eckert, Peter Eckert, Jamie Erwin, Denise Ferrara, Stefanie Gaudelli, Tia Gardner, Arlene Gentile, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Roy Harris, Carrin Holborn, Sarah Hyman, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Susan Jarkiewicz, Adrienne Kelly, Mary Kiernan, Jon Kip, Anthony Kulik, Jay Leone, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Laura Mack, Matthew Luludis, Marie Marasuilo, Thomas Mathai, Barbara Mazza, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Joe Mondello, Fr. Estella Morales, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Fr. Jack Oldfield, Deana Olsen, Tina Osika, Shace Paljusevic, Joseph Pasculli, Bill Peden, Philomena Pelzer, Patricia Plotkin, Adolf Radeljic, Etta Rooney, Mary Russo, Virginia Ryan, Daniel Sammarone, Nicholas Salzman, Eleanor Scelza, Erica Scully, Ruth Schwetz, Michael Shumway, William R. Sichel, Jr., Jean Simons, Aurelia Sorgo, Claudia Spallanzani, Maureen Starke, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Margaret Szaro, Marcus Theoc, Fr. Peter Tarantino, SA, Phyllis Varacalli, Carol Van Vandt, Millie Vazquez and Fr. Wing.**

ALTAR MEMORIALS DECEMBER 24, 2017

**Altar Breads and Altar Breads In Memory of
THE ADAMS & BOLTON FAMILIES**

**Altar Candles In Memory of
JOHN BUKOWSKI II**

**Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of
ROBERT O. COLBATH**



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, family members and loved ones. Especially: **Philip Rohr, Giordano Sorgo, Rudolph Laguna and Gloria Kajalo**



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

5:30pm – Robert O. Colbath

SUNDAY, December 24

7:00am – Parish Memorial Society

8:30am – Peter P. Scarpa

10:00am – James Anthony Paglianti

11:30am – Gratus Scerri

1:00pm – All Parishioners

SUNDAY, December 24 -Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm – (Church and School) – All Parishioners

5:30pm – Church – All Parishioners

12:00am - Midnight Mass – All Parishioners

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS

ALL MASSES ARE FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

7:00AM, 8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM & 1:00PM

NO 5:30PM Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:00am – No Mass

9:00am – Aline Hendrickson

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00am – Stephen Karas

9:00am – Rose McNally

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:00am –Special Intention of Kenneth & Althea Frank

9:00am –Thomas Leahy

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:00am – Antonio Russo

9:00am – Special Intentions of Joanne Morency

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00am – Charles J. Lynch

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

5:30pm – Deacon Joseph & Thomas Witt

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 Holy Family

7:00am – Parish Memorial Society

8:30am – Special Intentions Bobby & Nina Frank

10:00am – John S. Lewandowski

11:30am – Palma M. & Henry J. Heck

1:00pm – All Parishioners

5:30pm – Joseph & Paula Gangone

BOOSTER CLUB

WEEK 3 – ANNE & FRANK FRANCIOSA