

THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

NOVEMBER 27, 2016 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



| | |
|-----------------|--|
| | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 |
| 5:00 PM | Winnifred O'Neill |
| | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 |
| 8:00 AM | Wayne D'Ascoli (decd) <i>req. by Randy Visconti</i> |
| 10:00 AM | Fr. James Smyth (decd) <i>req. by Linda & Joseph Farrugia</i> |
| 12:00 PM | Fr. James Smyth (decd) <i>req. by Theresa & James Virga</i> |
| 6:00 PM | Rose Antonucci (decd) and Carol Fusco (living) <i>req. by Corinne Antonucci</i> |
| | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28 |
| 6:45 AM | Joseph Maurantonio (decd) <i>req. by Cathy</i> |
| 9:00 AM | Walter Gerace <i>req. by Lou</i> |
| | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 |
| 6:45 AM | Helen Durkin (decd) <i>req. by Carolyn Walsh</i> |
| 9:00 AM | John & Josephine Patrone (decd) <i>req. by Dolores Bellitto</i> |
| | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 |
| 6:45 AM | Fr. Robert Mason (decd) <i>req. by Fr. Fernan</i> |
| 9:00 AM | Vita Eva Lombardo (decd) <i>req. by George Thomas</i> |
| | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 |
| 6:45 AM | John Concannon (decd) <i>req. by The Madden Family</i> |
| 9:00 AM | Donald J. Torre (decd) <i>req. by Dolores Torre</i> |
| | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 |
| 6:45 AM | Carmel Finnegan (decd) <i>req. by Frank & Jackie Finnegan</i> |
| 9:00 AM | Willie Evers (living) <i>req. by Gretta Evers</i> |
| 7:30 PM | Cesar & Helen Tipawan (living) Special Intention |
| | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 |
| 9:00 AM | Carmelo Tamayo & Jose Maria Tamayo (decd) <i>req. by Joseph Tamayo and Family</i> |
| 5:00 PM | Enrique Davis (living) <i>req. by Yolanda Davis</i> |



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5 They shall beat their swords into plowshares.
Psalm 122 "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord."
Romans 13:11-14 Now is the hour to awake from sleep.
Matthew 24:37-44 The Son of Man will come at an hour you least expect.

Today the Gospel continues its focus on the end-times, carried over from the last Sundays in Ordinary Time. As one of the elements of Advent, pondering the Second Coming helps us to focus on what is important in our lives, and how we are to make ourselves ready for the coming of the Lord. While we know not the day nor the hour, Saint Paul counsels us to throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. As Jesus says, "Stay awake!"

MEMORIAL CANDLES & BREAD & WINE

Interested in memorializing the Sanctuary Candle by the Tabernacle or for the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Lady? These candles, which burn continuously, could burn for your specific intentions. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered or a special intention placed before God, please contact the rectory. An offering of \$15.00 a week is requested.

TABERNACLE CANDLE
IN THANKSGIVING
REQ. BY IRENE MOYLES



BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE
IN MEMORY OF PATRICIA SEE

BREAD AND WINE
IN MEMORY OF STEPHANO LEE
REQ. BY CECELIA LEE & FAMILY

SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Adoration Chapel | Natalie Philpin | 793-4757 |
| | Patricia Finan | 961-0146 |
| Altar Guild | Jennie Sepe | 776-9847 |
| Bereavement Group | Sr. Florence Mallon | 337-1660 ext.120 |
| Boy Scouts | Donna Ragusa | 472-7567 |
| Religious Education | G.Mastrangelo | 961-2590 |
| C.Y.O. | Joan DeLuca | 497-9798 |
| Catholic Daughters | Martina Parisi | 400-3634 |
| | Dolores Tenzer | 262-8146 |
| Cheerleaders | Lori Fox | 325-0333 |
| Couples for Christ | Dino Paolo Waga | 917-882-2995 |
| Girl Scouts | Jerilin Carota | 968-5526 |
| H. S. A. | Nancy Arzola | 274-0016 |
| Holy Name | Frank Giacoio | 793-5392 |
| Legion of Mary | Josephine Bitetti | 337-1372 |
| Living Rosary | Natalie Philpin | 793-4757 |
| Organist & Adult Choir | Jerry Celestino | 961-2590 |
| Parish Council | Father Fernan | 961-2590 |
| Serra Club | George Alessi | 779-8719 |
| Senior Club | Jennie Sepe | 776-9847 |
| St. Vincent DePaul | Walter Whitmore | 779-1826 |

PARISH SUPPORT

As evidence of their gratitude for God's generosity to them in their lives, our people returned to His Holy Church the following offerings:

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the financial data was not available for publication. Thank you for your continued generosity most especially during these difficult economic times.

"As stewards we are accountable to God for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful and meaningful first share of our time, talent and treasure.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Please let us remember all those who are in need of a meal or food on the table. There are many who are struggling in our own community. Please remember those who are in need. We are in need of non-perishable food items. (Cereal, soup, pasta, etc.) Please place these items in the baskets at the entrances of the church.

We serve our people as well as the *Sharing Community* in Getty Square. If you are able to cook but not deliver, please contact either Walter Whitmore (914) 779-1826 or David Fabi at hotfabi@optonline.net.

"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."

BOX TOPS-BOTTLE CAPS-SODA FLIP TOPS

The school would like to thank all those who have taken the time to collect box tops, plastic bottle caps, aluminum can flip tops and yogurt cup lids. The school only collects BOX TOPS at this time. Any box tops can be put in a special box in the school hallway by the church door.

ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel, located in the vestibule, is open daily Mon-Fri from 7am to 4pm, unless noted on schedule. We are asking specifically for prayers for Vocations. Please come and make a visit with the Lord. For more information call George Alessi, 779-8719.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Please contact Martina Parisi at (914) 400-3634 to learn more about the Catholic Daughters. All women of the parish are welcome.

LEGION OF MARY

We meet every Tuesday morning immediately after 9AM Mass or Tuesday evening at 7:00PM. For more information please contact Josephine Bitetti at (914) 337-1372.

ST. EUGENE BOY SCOUTS

Boy Scout Troop 25 will be selling Christmas wreaths after Mass Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th. The sale of the wreaths will help the Boy Scouts defray the cost to attend the National Jamboree this coming summer. Thank you for your support.

ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Recitation of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9AM weekday Masses.

SAINT EUGENE SENIORS

Reminder: December's meeting will take place Wednesday, December 14th at Buon Amici. There is a trip planned for the Westchester Broadway Theater for April 28, 2017 for Mamma Mia. For more information call Jennie Sepe at (914) 776-9847.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially Helen Sheedy, Nicholas Gardini, Andrew Moraitis, Michael Tomanelli, Elise Gelpi, Liam Frawley, Angelo Bavaro, John Hopkin, Deborah Mahon, Vincenzo Tramontozzi, Ralph Grillo, Joseph Kelly, Anna Lisa Miranda, Grisha Balaj, Julia Duffy, Eileen Brasiel, John McGarry, Serette Bernadin, Franzgermain Bernadin, Lisette Abraham, Baby Abigail Raine, Joan Pinto, Celia Torres, Frank Azaltovic, Jennie Sepe, Frankie Delosso, Mary Ann R. Encarnacion Fr. Terence Lee, Francis Bowen, Ann Fama, Phil Smyth, Cora Lucy Sannella, John Duby, Tom Tucker, Shirley Smith, Lucille Mallon, Ann McMahon, Brian Dosing, Anthony Battista and those recently called home to God. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

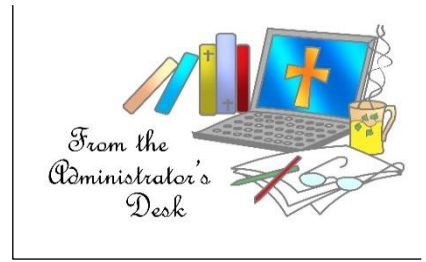
If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Jannelle Amador, Jose Luis Petrovich, Matthew Valentinetti, Brian Mulhern, John Kollinger, Kevin Brodeur, David Daliso, Logan Wilson, Matthew Fishwick and Kevin Jones. If you have family members or friends you would like to put on our Military Prayer list please notify the Parish Office at 961-2590.

Dear Parishioners:

Advent: This Sunday, November 27th is the First Sunday of Advent. With the beginning of the season of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year. The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming.” Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God’s incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus Matthew 2:1, His baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist John 1:29, and His first miracle at Cana



John 2:1. During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas. By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the “coming” they had in mind was not Christ’s first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but His second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ’s first coming at Christmas. Today, the Advent season lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time, the new Christian year begins with the twelve-day celebration of Christmastide, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on January 6. (Advent begins on the Sunday that falls between November 27th and December 3rd each year.) Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these “last days” Acts 2:17, Hebrews 1:2, as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate His eternal kingdom. The Church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God’s past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the Church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ’s coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ’s kingdom when He returns for His people. In this light, the Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” perfectly represents the Church’s cry during the Advent season: O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. While Israel would have sung the song in expectation of Christ’s first coming, the church now sings the song in commemoration of that first coming and in expectation of the second coming in the future. – *Catholic online*

CYO: This weekend begins a new year for our CYO basketball teams. We pray for all of our players that they not only learn the fundamentals of basketball, but that they show sportsmanship on and off the court. CYO Prayer: Lord Jesus, let all gathered here today know that we do so in Your name; allow us to understand the true meaning of our participation in this Catholic Youth Organization activity. Make us aware of our responsibility to all concerned so we may grow and develop in the full reality of Christian formation. Grant us a personal acceptance of the dignity of all individuals, above all, let us in all things, demonstrate a spirit of love and respect for all. Thank you to our executive board; President, *Joan DeLuca*, Vice President, *Lou Torres*, Secretary *Nicole Petrino* and members *Mike Smith*, *William Guzman*, and *Lori Fox* and coaches; *Marty Bowen*, *Jim Philips*, *Lou Torres*, *Efrain Arzola*, *Amanda Albanese*, *William Guzman*, *Tiffany Arred*, *Adrian Jones*, *Michael Lapinsky*, *Lori Fox* and all the parents.

Saint Eugene Boy Scout Troop 25: Our Boys Scouts will be selling beautifully decorated Christmas Wreaths before and after the masses this Sunday, November 27, and Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday December 4th. The cost is \$20.00. Please support our troop.

Saint Eugene Legion of Mary: The legion will have their annual giving tree in the church beginning this weekend. Please take an ornament off the tree and assist them as they bring joy to those in need. The gifts will be distributed to various organizations, for those who are in need. Thank you and God bless you.

Knights of Columbus: Our Chapter of the Knights of Columbus, the Cardinal Hayes Council 3995 will be selling “Keep Christ in Christmas” signs on December 3rd and 4th after all the masses. The cost for each sign is \$6.00.

Christmas Pageant: On Sunday, December 18th we will have Christmas caroling followed by the Christmas Pageant. We are looking for children to be angels and shepherds in our living crèche. If your child is interested, please fill out the pageant forms which are located at the table in the front of the church and at the entrances and place them in the collection basket.

Christmas Toy Drive: We will again this year conduct our Christmas Toy Drive. Please remember those who are less fortunate than us. The Toy Box will be in the back of the church on the left near the candles beginning on the weekend of November 26-27, the first Sunday of Advent.

May God Bless you always:

Gina Mastrangelo, Parish Administrator

Prayer for the Advent Wreath O God, by whose word all things are sanctified pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, and may receive from You abundant graces, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Beloved of God,

Eucharist Heart of Jesus Litany – Part 1

“Heart of Jesus in the Eucharist, sweet companion of our exile, I adore You.”

What is a LITANY? A Litany is a mode of responsive and repetitive prayer that has been used for centuries. The use of repetition can be found throughout the Bible. In the Book of Psalms, we read in Psalm 118.... “Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, **His mercy endures forever**. Let Israel say: **His mercy endures forever**. Let the house of Aaron say, **His mercy endures forever**. Let those who fear the Lord say, **His mercy endures forever**.” Also in the Book of Genesis, we read, “Then God said, Let there be... and there was... God saw that the... was good... Evening came and morning followed – the... day.” This refrain was used over and over again during the Six days of Creation. If this were a song, we could see these passages as a refrain bringing us back to the main intent of the artist. I am sure, that without even trying, you could remember dozens of refrains to songs. The refrain, its repetition, is meant to grab onto us and remain with us. So if we were to pray the Psalm 118 or 136, the leader might be offering the invocation and the rest of the community would respond with “His mercy endures forever” or “God’s love endures forever,” respectively. Verse after verse, response after response, the community would be praying... “God’s love endures forever,” “God’s love endures forever,” “God’s love endures forever,” “God’s love endures forever,” “God’s love endures forever.” As these words are repeating, our minds would be getting caught up in their meaning. God... over and over again. Love... over and over again. God’s Love... over and over again. Endures... over and over again. Forever... over and over again. “God’s love endures forever,” over and over again. Much like the *flash cards* of old, whether Math or Vocabulary, as the answers became second nature to us, so too would the Psalm Refrain... “God’s love endures forever.” You may recall Jesus offering the Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14), “Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income. But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’” Can’t you just picture the tax collector beating his breast repeatedly. Doesn’t this sound familiar? Doesn’t this remind you of a moment during the Holy Mass? Recall during the *Penitential Rite* when we pray the *Confiteor*... “I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (and striking their breast, they say) through, my fault, through my fault, through, my most grievous fault; (then they continue) therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.”



Previously, my column printed the Litany which we will be meditating upon over the months to come. The phrases which are repeated in the Litany are... *Heart of Jesus in the Eucharist... I adore You... Jesus, victim*. May I suggest that you make these phrases a part of your daily prayers as we begin our Advent Season. Even though they may be a part of the Litany, they stand on their own... *Heart of Jesus in the Eucharist... I adore You... Jesus, victim*. Opening your heart to the layers of meaning in these words will greatly benefit your spiritual life.

God love you... Father Fernan