

THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

DECEMBER 4, 2016 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10 The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb.

Psalm 72 "Justice shall flourish in his time and fullness of peace forever."

Romans 15:4-9 God, the source of patience, enables us to live in harmony.

Matthew 3:1-12 Prepare the way of the Lord!

Our First Reading today is from Isaiah, describing the peaceable kingdom of God, the day of the Messiah of the Lord. In this kingdom ancient enmities are ended and enemies live as neighbors. If we have heeded the message of last week's Gospel, we understand that the best way to make ourselves ready is to live as if this kingdom is already here. What do you hear in today's Sacred Scripture that will help you to live out the presence of God right now?

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

SPECIAL INTENTION FOR CHARLES TROIANO JR.

REQ. BY MOM

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

IN MEMORY OF GRACE R., UBALDO, SUZANNE & MICHAEL CENNERAZZO



BREAD AND WINE

THANK YOU FROM CARDINAL DOLAN



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

November 22, 2016
Month of the Faithful Departed

Ms. Gina Mastrangelo
Saint Eugene Religious Education Program
31 Massitoa Road
Yonkers, NY 10710

Dear Mrs. Mastrangelo and students:

Thank you most sincerely for your card and letters.

Your thoughtful remembrance at Thanksgiving is deeply appreciated.

Be assured that you and your loved ones will have a special remembrance at my Masses and in my prayers.

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Michael Dolan

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

5:00 PM Enrique Davis (living)
req. by Yolanda Davis

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00 AM Wayne D'Ascoli & David Anzalone (decd)
req. by Maria Anzalone-D'Ascoli

10:00 AM Ianni & Shibroski Family (decd)
req. by Virginia Shibroski

12:00 PM Pro Papulo

6:00 PM John Procaccino (decd)
req. by The Procaccino Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:45 AM Rose Capra (decd)
req. by Charles Capra

9:00 AM George O'Brien (decd)
req. by Janet O'Brien

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:45 AM Lena & Victor Miri (decd)
req. by George Gjelaaj

9:00 AM Gloria Molina & Shirley Martinez (decd)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:45 AM Decd members of the N & K Family
req. by George Mathew

9:00 AM Michael Gileno (decd)
req. by Joseph & Margaret Tesoriero

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:45 AM Maria Galve (decd)
req. by The Maghuyop Family

9:00 AM Eira Fatima Maghuyop (decd)

12:00 PM Josefina Gonzalez (decd)
req. by Denise Flanagan

7:30 PM Special Intention

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:45 AM Decd members of the N & K Family
req. by George Mathew

9:00 AM John H. Mahoney
req. by Patricia Mahoney

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00 AM Alberto & Rose DeVivo, Luigi and Gianna Dolgetta (decd)
req. by Silvia Dolgetta

5:00 PM Angelina Mastracchio (decd)

SAINT EUGENE SENIORS

Reminder: December's meeting will take place Wednesday December 14th at Buon Amici.

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:

November 20	2016	2015
Weekly Collection.....	\$8538	\$9965
Thanksgiving/Human Dev.....	\$1684	\$2015
Thanksgiving Day.....	\$1032	\$1395

November 27	2016	2015
Weekly Collection.....	\$8682	\$9359
Monthly Maintenance.....	\$1521	

"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.

ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel will be closed Thursday, December 8th for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

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, 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 Dosin, Anthony Battista, Sr. John Agnes Clancy, Andrea Dworken and those recently called home to God especially Sr. Monica Masterson, Ralph Grillo, Raymond J. Paturzo and Ronald Cappello. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

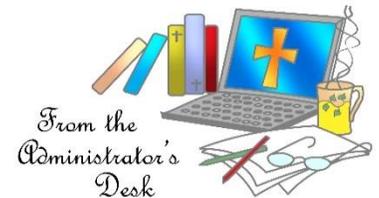
If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Janelle 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:

- As we are in this glorious season of *Advent*, let us not forget that this is an extra difficult time for those who are sick, searching for a job, or have lost a loved one. Let us remember all of these issues and pray for our neighbors and parishioners. ***Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2.***
- *Feast of Saint Nicholas:* Tuesday December 6th is the Feast of Saint Nicholas. *God of joy and cheer, we thank You for Your servant, the good Bishop Nicholas. In loving the poor, he showed kindness; in caring for Your children, he revealed Your love. Make us thoughtful without need of reward so that we too, may be good followers of Jesus.*
- *December 8th Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a holy day of obligation.* Prayer to the Immaculate Conception. *O Virgin Immaculate, Mother of God and my Mother, from thy sublime height turns upon thine eyes of pity. Filled with confidence in thy goodness and knowing full well thy power, I beseech Thee to extend to me thine assistance in the journey of life, which is so full of dangers for my soul. And in order that I may never be the slave of the devil through sin, but may ever live with my heart humble and pure, I entrust myself wholly to thee. I consecrate my heart to thee forever, my only desire being to love thy Divine Son, Jesus. Mary, none of thy devout servants has ever perished; may I too be saved. Amen.*
- *Thank you, Thank you:* On Tuesday November 22, members of the church community met in both the upper and lower parking lots of the school and church to collect turkeys and hams to be distributed to the sharing community in Yonkers. We as a parish provided a "Truck Load" of turkeys and hams for "The Sharing Community". As they were being unloaded at the center, members of the organization contacted other food pantries in the south Yonkers area to inform them that they had extra turkeys to hand out. What a great feeling to know that we had so many, that we were able to help more than we had anticipated. We, also with the help of our parishioners, the school children, and the boy scouts sent bags and bags of nonperishable goods to Saint Joseph's Food Pantry in Yonkers. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Herb Levi, Mima Ahearn, David Fabi, Walter Whitmore of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society, Donna Raguso of Boy Scout Troop 25, and Lauren Lewis and the families of Saint Eugene



School for their efforts in assisting in the food drive, and **YOU** our parishioners for giving to those in need. The feeling on Thanksgiving knowing we gave and gave with our heart was the best gift of all. God bless you.

- *Queen's Daughters Day Care Center:* We will be collecting pajamas and socks for a group of children who attend this organization. We are looking for items for children ages 2 -5 years old. These are children who are in desperate need. The mission statement for the organization is as follows; *we are a high quality, professional early childhood program caring for children from ages 18 months through 5 years old, whose parents work or are in job-related training programs. Within a challenging, supportive and positive environment, children are encouraged to explore their world through developmentally appropriate activities. We nurture and enhance the child's total development; intellectual, social, emotional and physical. Children grow in self-esteem, respect of others and conflict resolution skills. Our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes utilize computers, have weekly homework and follow NYS academic guidelines.* Please remember all of God's Children in this most blessed time of year.
- *Saint Eugene Religious Education Students:* This week during class the children all wrote letters to Santa to be delivered to Macy's for their Make –A Wish Foundation. For each letter written Macy's will donate \$1.00 to the Make-A Wish Foundation for children with cancer.
- *Saint Eugene Boy Scout Troop 25:* Our Boys Scouts will be selling beautifully decorated Christmas Wreaths before and after the masses this weekend December 3rd and December 4th. The cost is \$20.00. Please support our troop.
- *Knights of Columbus:* Our Chapter of the Knights of Columbus, the Cardinal Hayes Council 3995 will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" this weekend after all the masses. The cost for each sign is \$6.00.
- *Christmas Toy Drive:* We will again this year conduct our Christmas New Toy Drive. Please remember those who are less fortunate than us. The Toy Box is near the Baptismal Font. The toys will be distributed to Saint Peters in Yonkers.
- *Saint Eugene Legion of Mary:* The legion is conducting their annual tree giving. 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. All gifts need to be dropped off to the church by Sunday, December 11.
- *Saint Eugene Holy Name Society:* The next Holy Name Society Mass will be on December 11 at 10:00 am. The monthly meeting will follow directly after the Mass. The society will be discussing how to act on our Catholic values when considering the topic of immigration. All parishioners are welcome to attend the discussion. We meet in a classroom in the school. If there are any men who are interested in joining the Holy Name Society please see one of the members after the Mass. Thank you.
- *Christmas Pageant:* On Sunday, December 18th at 4:00 PM in the Church, 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.
- *Saint Eugene School:* The school will be again this year collecting toiletries for seniors as their service project. There will be a bin located in the long hallway of the school for donations.
- *Advent Day of Reconciliation:* On Monday, December 19th in all of the parishes in the Archdiocese of New York, it will be the fifth annual Day of Reconciliation (Penance). The schedule is from 4:00-8:00 pm in the church. Penance is a great way to prepare ourselves as we await the birth of our Lord.
- *Letters to God:* If any child would like to write a letter to God for Christmas please have them write the letters and put them into an envelope marked "Letters for God" and place them in the Mailbox on the table marked "Letters to God." All the letters will be presented to *Our Lord* on Christmas Eve at the 5:00 PM Mass.
- *Religious Education: Inclement Weather:* Just a reminder, if there is any form of winter weather that should occur on the Wednesday afternoons or evenings which may interfere with Religious Education, please watch News 12, or News 12 Interactive on the web. *Thank you.*

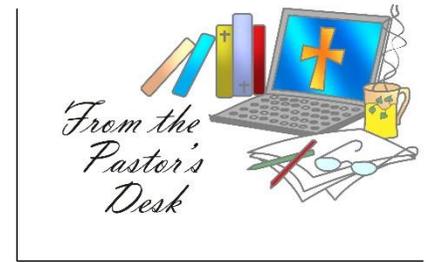
May God bless you always: Gina Mastrangelo, Parish Administrator

Beloved of God,

**The Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady...
The Sacrament of Baptism and Limbo**

"In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to Her and said, "Greetings, You who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to Her, "Do not be afraid Mary; You have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and You are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end." (Luke 1:26-33)



Over the centuries, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the teachings of the Catholic Church, we have to believe and hold as dogma (a truth that must be believed by all Catholics), that in order for Our Blessed Lady to possibly be chosen by God as the human tabernacle of the Divine Son of God, She must be as pure and good as God is. Therefore, the Virgin Mary was prepared for the possibility of becoming the Mother of God, prepared for the moment we just read from Luke's Gospel above. This preparation was in the form of Mary being conceived without Original Sin, the Sin of Pride and Disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, which has been passed down from one generation to the other to the present day. Being free from this sin from Her conception gave Our Blessed Lady *absolute freedom*, not the freedom that so many want these days in the form of being able to do whatever we want without consequence... but the *freedom* to always live in the Grace and Presence of Almighty God... the *freedom* to remain *free from sin* for Her entire life. What a gift given Her by God... but what about us? Why weren't we given this same gift? Does God love us less?

"John the Baptist went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins... The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But One who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Luke 3:3, 15-16) In the Sacrament of Baptism which we have received, we were given by God the same preparation for the rest of our lives that was given to Our Blessed Lady. The Baptism freed us from Original Sin granting us the same *absolute freedom* enjoyed by Mary... the *freedom* to always live in the Grace and Presence of Almighty God... the *freedom* to remain *free from sin* our entire lives. Whether we did or not has been our choice. God, therefore, has loved us with the same love He has for our Blessed Lady and the same love that God the Father has for the Son and the Spirit... *"Jesus prayed, "I have made You known to them, and will continue to make You known in order that the love You have for Me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." (John 17:26)*

As the love of God is continuous and complete, what about those pre-mature children who died before or in childbirth? What about those children born who died before they were baptized? What about those children whose lives were forfeited through the act of abortion? Does, could God love them any less? Could He restrict their possibility of eternal life with Him in heaven? Could He, in effect, punish them for something not of their doing? From the lesson of Our Blessed Mother, we have learned firstly of the immensity of God's love. From the gift of the Sacrament of Baptism consecrated through the Baptism of Jesus, we have learned how God has shared His love with us all. God, therefore, will not leave any soul in limbo. All those children mentioned above will be freed, as Mary was, from Original Sin and be welcomed into their eternal reward, prepared for them from the creation of the world. How you may ask.

God, in His love and mercy, gave us the Sacrament of Baptism because we needed it. We cannot be freed from Original Sin without. The question we must ask is, "Does God need Baptism to free us from sin?" Absolutely not. God's love and mercy far surpass any sin. So, for those little ones who have lost their lives prior to Baptism, God frees them of the Sin of Adam and Eve. They are not punished in any way. They are welcomed in the joys of eternal life.

"Praise the God of heaven, for His mercy endures forever." (Psalm 136:26)

God love you... Father Fernan