



# First Sunday of Advent ~ November 27, 2016



*"You ... must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." ~Matthew 24:44*

## Weekly Mass Intentions



**Mass Intentions**

### Saturday November 26

8:00am - ~ Unborn babies in wombs & their families *By: Deacon Jim Stallhnecker*  
5:00pm- † William M. Frickenstein *Offered by: Family*  
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

### Sunday November 27

8:30am-†Charles Pommerenk *~Anniversary in Heaven~ By: wife & loving family*  
10:00am- † Jacobo & Mavis Dollison *By: grandchildren, children family & friends*  
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions  
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions  
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

### Monday November 28

8:00am- † Carmen Santore *Offered by: Lorna Smith*  
12:05pm- † John & Arlene Ferris *By: daughter, Susan Ferris*

### Tuesday November 29

8:00am- † *Offered by:*  
12:05pm- † Denise Graves *Offered by: Parishioners*

### Wednesday November 30

8:00am - † Gloria Leslie *Offered by: Linford Smith*  
12:05pm-† *Offered by:*

### Thursday December 1

8:00am- † Philip Cintron *Offered by: Sisters*  
12:05pm- † Edwyn Rodriguez *Offered by: Carmen Refugio*

### Friday December 2

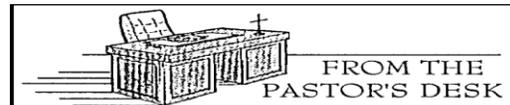
8:00am- † *Offered by:*  
12:05pm- † *Offered by:*

### Saturday December 3

8:00am- † Ivan Delgado *Offered by: mother, Mayra*  
5:00pm- † Richard Nouvertne *By: Peg & Tom Ventrudo*

### Sunday December 4

8:30am- † MaryAnn Fair *Offered by: Judith Cappadora*  
10:00am- † Florence Forlenza *Offered by: Family*  
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions  
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions



*In our scripture readings for this First Sunday of Advent, we are reminded of the unity in God to which we are called and the peace that will be ours when that unity is achieved.*

In the prophecy from Isaiah, we have the beautiful image of God's Kingdom as a city set upon a hill to which all the nations will one day come and all will live in conformity with what God has desired for the human family from the beginning of creation. God desires that all people live in peace as the one family that we are given that we have all been created by one God and all share in the same dignity that comes from having been created in God's own image and likeness. Sadly, we hear this truth, but don't appreciate the beauty of it. We think that it is hopelessly idealistic given that there is so much division in our nation and in our world today. We dismiss this vision as the hope of naïve dreamers; a vision whose realization we will never see.

It is true that it is most likely that we will not live to see the realization of this vision of God for the human family, but we are still obligated to help make this vision real. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. worked tirelessly to realize the vision of a nation in which racial divisions would be overcome, poverty would be vanquished, and there would truly be liberty and justice for all. Dr. King never ceased to work toward the realization of this vision and ultimately gave his life in pursuit of it. At a time when the great work of Dr. King seems threatened, it is all the more important that each of us, as Christians, work tirelessly to realize God's vision for our nation and world. We must be persons who foster peace and not division. We must be persons who recognize that all persons are our brothers and sisters regardless of their race, their religion, their immigration status, their sexual orientation or their social class. Our nation needs Christians who are committed to realizing God's vision of unity and peace for the human family.

In this Advent season, pray for the grace to be an agent of unity and peace so that you might be an instrument through whom God can realize God's vision for this world.

*Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J*

## Weekly Memorials

**Bread & Wine**



~ † *Stanley & Marcella Mikos*  
*Offered by: Family*

**Tabernacle Candle**

~ †

**Memorial Candle**

~ †

## Liturgical Minster's Schedule DECEMBER 2016

### Saturday 5:00 PM

*Lector:* Linda Graves & Tom Ventrudo *(carry Gospel Book)*  
*E. M.:* Linford Smith & Peg & Tom Ventrudo, *Sub:* Cinderella Wonsewitz

### Sunday 8:30 AM

*Lector:* Ceferino Albarracin & Delmeter Carey *(carry Gospel Book)* *Sub:* Joan Fortunato  
*E.M.:* Delmeter Carey, Linda Torres & Samuel Torres *Sub:* Diane Carbonaro

### Sunday 10:00 AM

*Lector:* Thelma Washington *(carry Gospel Book)* *Sub:* Alexis Crowdell  
*E.M.:* Theresa Contardo, Emmanuel Fode & Dianne Murphy *Sub:* Beverly Marryshow

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

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These readings are found complete on our parish web page ([www.olmcsi.org](http://www.olmcsi.org)). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

#### **TODAY: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

#### **Next Sun: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12



**ENJOY CHRISTMAS CHEER EARLY THIS YEAR!** – Our Christmas Raffle has begun! We have an impressive array of baskets. Tickets are 3 for \$5.00 and 7 for \$10.00. You can choose the baskets into which you want to drop your tickets. Play now! Play often! You could win big!

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION** – Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Meeting Room. All are welcome. We also **need volunteers for the set-up (1 pm to 4 pm) and the distribution.** Please leave your contact information in the office. *Thank you!*

**BIBLE STUDY** – Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Class will begin at 10 a.m. in the rectory. *All are welcome!*

#### **PRAYER FOR ADVENT:**

O God, who fills the deepest longings of our hearts, in this Advent-time we remember Mary and Joseph, giving thanks for their faithfulness, courage and obedience, stepping out into the unknown in the strength of your Spirit, playing their part in the fulfilment of your plan to bring your prodigal people home again.

We pray that their example might be the pattern of our lives, that when your gentle whisper breaks through the clamor of this world and into our small corner, we might be ready to listen, and having listened, to act.

This we pray through the One whose final coming we await, Jesus, our Lord.

**YOU RAISED \$4,662.60!!** – Thank you for your extraordinary support of our Annual Cardinal's Appeal! Our goal was \$25,500. We have promises of \$36,513.00. We have collected \$33,271.00. This is remarkable! The Archdiocese has given us 60% of the money that we raised beyond our goal - \$4,662.60. Your generosity has blessed this Archdiocese and has blessed our parish! Your gifts have had a double-impact. You've helped our Archdiocese to continue the work that it does in supporting our parishes, educating future leaders of our church, and providing help to those in need. You have also helped our parish so that we have the funds that we need to build a strong, vibrant community of faith. We will receive another check in March, 2017, if we continue to fulfill all of our pledges. Thank you for your support of the Cardinal's Campaign!

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES** – If you would like to remember a deceased loved one during the Christmas Season, envelopes are available in the entrance to the Church. Please return your envelope to the parish office or in the collection basket. *Thank you!*

**OUR HOLY FATHER on MERCY:** This is the time of mercy. Each day of our journey is marked by God's presence. He guides our steps with the power of the grace that the Spirit pours into our hearts to make them capable of loving. It is the time of mercy for each and all, since no one can think that he or she is cut off from God's closeness and the power of his tender love. It is the time of mercy because those who are weak and vulnerable, distant and alone, ought to feel the presence of brothers and sisters who can help them in their need. It is the time of mercy because the poor should feel that they are regarded with respect and concern by others who have overcome indifference and discovered what is essential in life. It is the time of mercy because no sinner can ever tire of asking forgiveness and all can feel the welcoming embrace of the Father. *Pope Francis.*

**WOMEN'S SIXTH ANNUAL ADVENT DAY of REFLECTION** – Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Vincent Ferrer Church in Manhattan (Lexington Avenue at 66<sup>th</sup> Street). 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Led by Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J. and the Sisters of Life. Mass + Opportunity for Reconciliation + Divine Mercy Chaplet + Rosary. \$25.00 Registration fee (includes lunch). Registration required. [nolan.jacqueline29@gmail.com](mailto:nolan.jacqueline29@gmail.com) or 212-721-4507.

**DISPOSE OF YOUR CAR and CONTRIBUTE to GOOD WORKS** - You can donate your used car, truck or van, operational or not, to the St. Vincent DePaul Society and the St. Vincent DePaul Society will contribute \$50 or \$100 to our church. If you do not have a vehicle that is ready for retirement, perhaps a family member, friend or colleague at work does. Call the Society of St. Vincent DePaul at 718-491-2525. Please tell them that you heard of this program through Mount Carmel Church on Staten Island. *Thank you!*

**WEEKLY OFFERING:** November 20: \$4,177; Less than we need each week. Catholic Campaign: \$516 – *Thank you!!*

**THE ADVENT WREATH PRAYER - First Sunday of Advent (light one candle)** - Many families do the lighting of the candles at the main meal in the evening. A suggested prayer for the candle lighting for the first week of Advent is: **Lighting of Candle** "Oh Lord, stir up Your might, we beg You and come, that by Your protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Your deliverance. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*"

We encourage you to use this beautiful prayer every night before your family meal together. It is a way of reminding us of the **longing of our hearts** for the final coming of our Lord Jesus.