

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2015**



Masses for the Week

Saturday	Theresa Sena	5:00pm
Sunday	People of the Parish	8:00am
Sunday	Al Spornyak	10:00am
Monday	Vigil for Immaculate Conception	5:30pm
Tuesday	Immaculate Conception	10:00am 7:30pm
Wednesday	Steiner & Philips Families	5:15pm
Thursday	John J. O'Leary	8:00am
Friday	Dorothy Wills	5:30pm
Saturday	Frances Cahill	5:00pm

Please Pray for Our Sick

Mattie Berhang, Elsie Harcut, Robert LaFera, Lynne Lazzaro, Thomas McGovern Sr., Grant Nicolson, Mario Occhi, Salvator Paone, Chico Perez, Dcn. Bob Repke, Ronald Smith, Daniel Sweeney, Alice Theiss, Thomas Vavrinec, Luisa Walsh, Irene Waddell

We also want to remember parishioners who are currently in Nursing Facilities. They are: Dorothy Boodakian, Frank Cahill, Nilka Rosado, Rose Sferrazza, Donato Tintori, Alice Tochterman

Tithing \$3,759.00

Immaculate Conception

This Tuesday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. Mass times are at 5:30pm on Monday evening for the vigil Mass, and at 10am and 7:30pm on Tuesday. For the National Night of Prayer, we will follow the 7:30 Tuesday evening Mass with Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for an hour. We will also have recitation of the rosary and prayers for life.

Second Collection

Second Collection next weekend, December 12th and 13th will be for the Religious Retirement Fund.

Advent Daily Mass

It's an old and pious tradition in the Church for Catholics to attend daily Mass during Advent (as well as Lent) if they don't usually do so during the year. It is a way of

acknowledging the season's meaning and separating it from the rest of the year. We have daily Mass on Mondays, and Fridays at 5:30pm, Wednesdays 5:15pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8am in the sacristy chapel. Is there a better way to prepare for Christ's coming than to greet him where he's already present?

THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

The Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Mercy", to begin on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8th through November 20th 2016. During this period the Holy Father has invited the Church to reflect corporately on the gift of God's Mercy and to rediscover the Church's role as witness to the love of God. Many indulgences, ceremonies, teachings and devotions are associated with such a Holy Year, wonderful opportunities to experience in a special year the goodness of the Lord.

Reconciliation Monday

On Monday, December 14^h, we will celebrate our Advent Reconciliation Monday. The time will be from 4-8pm in the confessionals in the rear of the Church. This is the Monday following Gaudete Sunday.

The National Night of Prayer

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and the unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these two feasts to honor Our Blessed Mother and prays through her intercession for the establishment of a Culture of Life, protection for the Church from persecution and asks Our Lord to REVIVE OUR LAND. All are invited to participate!

Christmas Crib

"Following a beautiful and firmly rooted tradition, many families set up their crib immediately after the feast of the Immaculate Conception, as if to relive with Mary those days full of trepidation that preceded the birth of Jesus. Putting up the crib at home can be a simple but effective way of presenting the faith, to pass it on to one's children. The crib helps us contemplate the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto. Saint Francis of Assisi was so taken by the mystery of the Incarnation that he wanted to present it anew at Greccio in the living nativity scene, thus beginning an old, popular tradition that still

retains its value for evangelization today. Indeed, the crib can help us understand the secret of the true Christmas because it speaks of the humility and merciful goodness of Christ, who 'though he was rich made himself poor' for us (2 Cor 8:9). His poverty enriches those who embrace it and Christmas brings joy and peace to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the Angel's words: 'Let this be a sign to you: in a manger you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes' (Lk 2: 12). This is still the sign for us too, men and women of the third millennium. There is no other Christmas."

Pope Benedict XVI

Shoe Box Thanks

A **HUGE THANKS** to all those who helped make the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project a total success! We were able to fill 118 boxes and also had enough money to ship all of them. We are always amazed at the generosity of our parish. The boxes were dropped off at the Kingston distribution center before being shipped off to children in need.

THANKS AGAIN!! for making a difference in a child's life. We look forward to doing it again, next year.....with another fun packing party.



Christmas Gifts

Once again, we are collecting Christmas gifts for local youngsters. Gift tags for children in need are on the tag tree in the rear of the Church.

Please attach the tag to the gift you donate. We ask that you place an unwrapped gift in a gift bag. Food items for our Christmas baskets are also appreciated. No expired food items, please. Bring the gifts and food no later than December 14th.

Advent

"Advent . . . helps us to understand fully the value and meaning of the mystery of Christmas. It is not just about commemorating the historical event that occurred some 2,000 years ago in a little village of Judea. Instead, it is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an 'advent,' a vigilant awaiting the final coming of Christ. To predispose our mind to welcome the Lord who, as we say in the Creed, one day will come to judge the living and the dead, we must learn to recognize him as present in the events of daily life. Therefore, Advent is, so to speak, an intense training that directs us decisively toward him who already came, who will come, and who comes continuously." *St. John Paul II*



Flower Memorial Fund

Envelopes for Christmas memorials are in the rear of the church. Just fill in the envelope and place it in any first collection basket. We are indebted to our parishioners who choose to remember their deceased loved ones by contributing to this fund. It is the primary means we have for funding the decoration of the sanctuary.

Stamps for Missions

As the holidays approach and we begin receiving many card and letters, please consider supporting the missions through the cancelled stamp recycling program. Simply trim around the stamp leaving a 1/2" border. There is a basket located in the rear of the church to deposit your stamps or you can drop them off at the rectory. The funds received from the recycled stamps are donated to the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies. For almost 170 years, MCA has provided food, clothing, shelter medical care and education to children in missions all over the world.

Mass Book

Remember your loved ones, living and deceased, at Masses in our parish. Visit or call the rectory office to schedule your Masses. We still have many available dates of Masses for you and your family.

MHA "Presents for Patients"

Presents for Patients is a holiday gift giving program sponsored by the Mental Health Association. The presents go directly to people dealing with a mental illness who are living in a MHA or who are involved in a MHA program in Ulster County. Donate a gift to a man or woman tagged with info about the contents or size. For many it will be the only gift that that receive this year. Please send or bring your gifts to the MHA Wellness Services office located in Building #3, 300 Aaron Court, Willow Park Complex on Westbrook Lane, Kingston (just beyond Hannaford) Collection will continue until December 10th between the hours of 10am – 4pm. Gift suggestions: socks, hats, scarves, t-shirts, sweaters, sizes L & XL, puzzles, stamps, pens, games, soaps, candy, cookies.

Rosary Altar Society

Next weekend team *two* is scheduled.
