



**Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2015**

Masses for the Week

Saturday	Frances Cahill	5:00pm
Sunday	People of the Parish	8:00am
Sunday	Loretta Goode	10:00am
Monday	<i>St. John of the Cross</i> Dorothy Wills	5:30pm
Tuesday	Richard & Prudence Savino	8:00am
Wednesday	Gloria Carucci	5:15pm
Thursday	Marie Dombrowski	8:00am
Friday	Matthew Corton	5:30pm
Saturday	Thomas Merck	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 \$5,609.00

Second Collection

I ask your generous support for the **Annual Appeal for our Retired Consecrated Religious women and men** who have dedicated their lives serving others with love to all they ministered to in our Archdiocese. Please be as generous to our 2nd collection on December 13th weekend, as you can to support our retired sisters and brothers, particularly in defraying the ongoing costs of their healthcare. I know you join me in thanking them for their untiring service and by showing them our appreciation by your contribution to this most worthy cause. With prayer best wishes for a blessed Advent, I am
Faithfully yours in Christ,
Timothy M Dolan
Archbishop of New York

Religious Ed News

Religious Ed classes will not be in session on December 23rd and December 30th but will resume on January 6th.

**Be Not Afraid
Join Us in this Year of Mercy
RECONCILIATION MONDAY
December 14th 4-8pm**

Pope Francis:

Jesus Embraces You in Confession

“It is not easy to entrust oneself to God’s mercy, because it is an abyss beyond our comprehension. But we must! ... “Oh, I am a great sinner!” “All the better! Go to Jesus: He likes you to tell him these things!” He forgets, He has a very special capacity for forgetting. He forgets, He kisses you, He embraces you and He simply says to you: “Neither do I condemn you; go, and sin no more” (Jn 8:11).

Remember Christ this Christmas

Shop until you drop! Buying, having, possessing and allowing your possessions to possess you! Sad to say, this has all become the modern immediate preparation for Christmas. Moreover, in many places even the word “Christmas” has been forbidden from modern vocabulary.

Jesus is the reason for the season. The whole focus of Advent which culminates in the Solemnity of Christmas is a *person!* That person is Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus is the true reason for the entire season. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in the humble, poor stable of Bethlehem. The name “Jesus” means Savior. He came to open up the gates of heaven, to save us from slavery to sin, the devil, and eternal damnation. This Christmas let us contemplate the Person of Jesus and the purpose of His mission. Let our hearts overflow in humble praise and thanksgiving. St. Ignatius of Loyola accentuates the fact that Jesus did all of this not simply for humanity as a whole but for you and I, individually. Jesus was born, suffered, died and rose from the dead for me, as if I were the only person in the universe.



How important I am for God! How important Christmas—the birth of Jesus—should be for me.

Fr. Ed Broom, OMV

**Catholic Underground North
December 2015**

Sponsored By: Ignite Catholic Young Adults
Saturday, December 19th 7:30-10pm
Mount St. Mary College-
Most Holy Rosary Chapel
330 Powell Ave. Newburgh, NY
Performer: PJ Anderson

Artist: John Patrick Murphy

Confessions will be available throughout the evening and refreshments will be served during the performance.

Join us for a personal encounter with Christ while helping promote the arts within the Catholic community

For more info: CUNorth@IgniteTruth.org



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

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 ½” 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.

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.



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 and FOOD

We are collecting Christmas gifts and Food. Gift tags for children in need are on the tree in 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 needed. No expired food items, please. Bring the gifts and food no later than December 14th.

Rosary Altar Society

Next weekend team *three* is scheduled.
