

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

— *Mark 1:3*



Mass Intentions



Sat., Dec 09, 5:30 p.m. Henry McNamara, Dennis McCloskey, Sidney Huval and Family, Corey Rainey, Amy Goff, Mary Ann and Douglas Luke (L), Dick and Ruth Olson (L), Sick Parishioners (L), John Gereighty, Nick Sita, The Karge Family (L), Louis Perschall Sr., Eliska Marie Plunkett (L), Marie Adele (L), Mr. and Mrs. George Santos (L), Loretta Stansbury, Lester Shackford

Sun., Dec. 10, 7:30 a.m. Ann Lavedan

Sun., Dec. 10, 9:15 a.m. Parishioners

Sun., Dec. 10, 11:00 a.m. Bob Pecunia, Carol Pieri, Hazel Dupre (L), Joseph Legnon, Barbara Tucker (L), John Gereighty, JoAnn and Frank Tarantino (L), Ken Boroughs (L), Linda Blanchard, Gene Vizzini (L), Ashton Neubig, Jean F. Segura

Mon., Dec. 11, 8:00 a.m. Maude Dietrich

Tues., Dec. 12, NO MASS

Wed., Dec. 13, 8:00 a.m. Macario Deleon Sampang Sr.

Thurs., Dec. 14, 8:00 a.m. Mary Chan

Fri., Dec. 15, 8:00 a.m. Shawn Bertrand

Sat., Dec 16, 5:30 p.m. Henry McNamara, Dennis McCloskey, Sidney Huval and Family, Corey Rainey, Amy Goff, Dick and Ruth Olson (L), Sick Parishioners (L), John Gereighty, Nick Sita, The Karge Family (L), Louis Perschall Sr., Eliska Marie Plunkett (L), Marie Adele (L), Frances Hebbler, Frank Boroughs, Bell Valley-Hocking Tomsic Families (L), Lester Shackford

Sun., Dec. 17, 7:30 a.m. Ann Lavedan, Carol Pieri, Doris M. Letsch, Richard W. Letsch, Alvin Satches, Jon Craig (L), Larry Kass, Simon Kiefer, Loretta Stansbury, Corey Rainey, Nora Hauptmann, Fannie Tucker (L), Greg Battistella (L), Elvia Johnson, Barbara Tucker (L), Clarence Innis (L), Gloria Fabre

Sun., Dec. 17, 9:15 a.m. Joyce LeBlanc

Sun., Dec. 17, 11:00 a.m. Parishioners

PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Helen Lafleur | Louise Cashmere |
| Margaret Mary Mule' | Tom Kelley |
| Judge Salvadore Mule' | Martha Huval |
| Emmitt Guderian | Max Jones |
| Joann Austin | Ethel Istre |
| Chip Guillory | Kevin Delaune |
| Lance Babst | Margaret Jones |

LECTOR/COMMENTATOR SCHEDULE

December 9-10, 2017

	5:30	7:30	9:15	11:00
L.	Karen	Nancy	Bonnie	Jim
C.	Judy	Tim	Terry	Rob

Weekly Collections

Regular Collection	\$ 4,743.23
2 nd Coll. Building and Pres. Fund	\$ 1,552.00

SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "We thank God for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's but also love to God. Show your support for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have made a positive difference in so many lives. Please "Share in the Care" and give generously to this week's second collection.

THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

<i>Sanctuary:</i>	Jeanette Marino
<i>Blessed Mother</i>	Nick Sita
<i>St. Joseph</i>	Volunteers of St. John's (L)
<i>St. Ann</i>	George Williams (L)

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7 day candle please call 796-3806.



Frank Boroughs, father of Ken Boroughs who entered peacefully into eternal rest. **Whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.** [John 11:26]

"CHRISTMAS FLOWERS"

The Altar Society is asking for donations for flowers to help with the added expense for Christmas Flowers. Donations can be placed in the box on the wall in the back of church. You can enter the names of your loved ones in the book and they will be remembered at all Masses throughout the Christmas season.

NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures,

504.834.5865 or www.godsspecialchildren.org

POPE'S DECEMBER INTENTION

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

"ATTENTION ALL CHRISTMAS ANGELS"

Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Angel Tree this year. Your generosity will surely bring joy and happiness to a child's Christmas.



GIVING....TIME TALENT TREASURE

Giving is often viewed in relationship to needs: the needs of the parish to operate financially, the needs of the whole Church and the needs of the poor. However, the fundamental issue is the need of donors to live out the Lordship of Jesus Christ in their lives. Generosity with our money, time and talent gets to the heart of our values. **Jesus cut to the chase when he said: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.** There are several ways to give to your Church such as volunteering your time or your talents. Perhaps you are handy at fixing things, yard work, etc. Another way perhaps is to help with the cost by making a donation towards the Calendars, Magnificat books or the books that Fr. Robert will hand out as a Christmas Gift.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

The North Shore Deanery Advent Reconciliation will be on December 20th at 7:00 p.m. at Most Holy Trinity Church in Covington. There will be several priests available for confessions. You are encouraged to attend.

On behalf of the Parish School of Religious, thank you to all who donated material and supplies for the costumes for the Christmas Program that will take place on January 3rd. Everyone is invited to attend. More info to follow.

Please pick up your box of contribution envelopes from the credenzas in the back of Church. They will only be in Church this weekend and next. If you would like to begin using envelopes or you do not see your name on a box please call 985-796-3806.

This Christmas we will have a double obligation to fulfill. The Mass schedule for Christmas and weekend Masses is as follows:

- Saturday, December 23 - 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 24 - 7:15, 9:15, 11:00 a.m.
- Vigil of Christmas - Sunday, December 24 - 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p.m.
- The Nativity of the Lord Monday, December 25 -9:15 a.m.

NATIVITY CRECHES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Callie and Bob Segura will share with St. John's Parish their Nativity Crèche's Exhibit and would like to invite anyone who would like to join the display with their Nativity Crèche/Crèche's. It is the beauty of Christmas. It is all about Christ's birth. The exhibit will be on display on Wednesday, January 3rd before and after the Christmas Program in Jonathan. The Exhibit will remain up through the weekend before and after all masses. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. If you Have any questions please call the office.

- ADORATION IS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.
- CHOIR PRACTICE, EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 P.M.
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETINGS ARE THE SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH AT 7:30 P.M. IN ODILO HALL
- FIRST SATURDAY MASS AT 8:00 A.M. EVERY MONTH
- BLANKET MINISTRY MEET LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH
- CATCH FIRE YOUTH GROUP MEETS THE FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 6 - 7:30 P.M. IN ODILO HALL.
- PSR CLASSES ARE EVERY WEDNESDAY, 6:15-7:30 PM
- MENS GROUP, WORD ON FIRE CATHOLICISM, THURS. 7:30 P.M. IN LIBRARY

REVELATION ADULT BIBLE STUDY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 9:00
A.M. IN LIBRARY

MATTHEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY, MONDAY, 7:30 P.M. IN LIBRARY