

Welcome to the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Patrick

Rememóeríng
Dec.10 - Dec. 16

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent (C)

Bar 5:1-9

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Lk 3:1-6

MONDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✠ Cheryl McLaughlin
Mickey Baldanzi

TUESDAY

12:00pm

✠ Angela Gleason
Joseph & Barbara Rowan

WEDNESDAY

Our Lady of
Guadalupe

6:30pm (SP)

✠ Deacon Cliff

THURSDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✠ Ann M Ianelli
Mickey Baldanzi

FRIDAY

NO MASS

SATURDAY

4:00pm (SJ)

✠ For the People of
St. Joseph's Parish

5:30pm (SP)

✠ Una Coyne
Husband, Peter

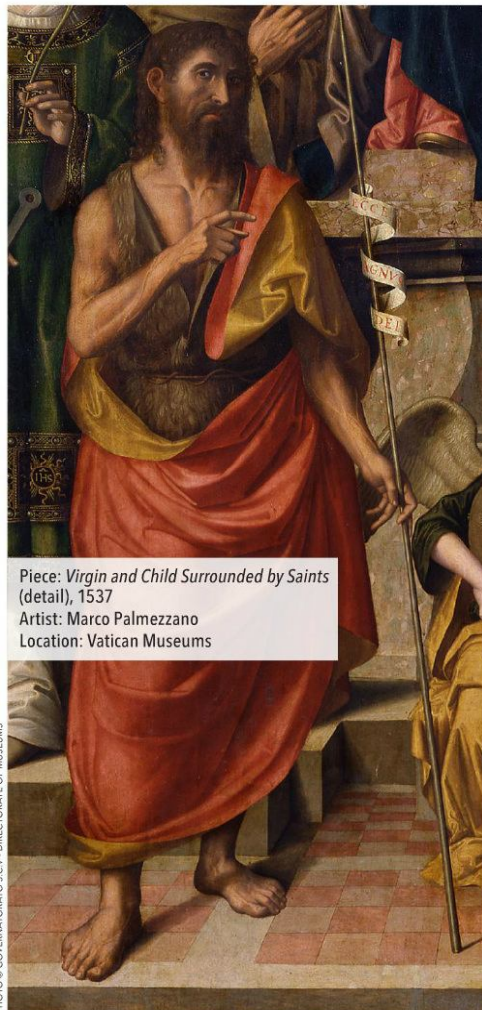
SUNDAY

8:30am (SJ)

✠ Patrick & Jenny
Lapriore
The Family

11:00am (SP)

✠ Angela Gleason
Frank & Irene DeVito



Piece: Virgin and Child Surrounded by Saints
(detail), 1537
Artist: Marco Palmezzano
Location: Vatican Museums

The Time Is Right

Saint Luke loves to be precise in his Gospel, so he documents the exact time and place of the appearance of John the Baptist, the precursor to Jesus. Tiberius was the second emperor of Rome, and the fifteenth year of his reign corresponds to AD 27. Pontius Pilate was prefect from the years 26 to 36. Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, ruled in Galilee until his death in the year 39 and is the Herod who had John the Baptist beheaded. On the Jewish side, Caiaphas was high priest, and his influential father-in-law Annas was considered a leader of Jewish religious life.

These historical dates align with Luke's explanation, as well as other events described in his Gospel. Ours is a faith based on real people and events. No doubt there is a great appreciation for the supernatural in our faith, but it is never *against* nature, just *beyond* it.

Jesus praised John the Baptist (see Matthew 11:2-9) for his strong will and dedication. Humility, austerity, courage, and a spirit of prayer are also a large part of the testimony John left us. Palmezzano dresses him in the martyr's red and camel skin to accent his supreme virtue. So dedicated and heroic was he in his fulfillment of the mission entrusted to him, Jesus acclaimed "among those born of women there has been none greater" (Matthew 11:11). "He was a burning and shining lamp" (John 5:35) to illuminate the path toward the true light who was coming into the world. Once that divine light arrived, John receded into the shadows.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Do I lead people to Jesus through my dedicated testimony?

Do I speak easily and naturally of Jesus with colleagues, family, or friends?

*He went throughout [the] whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming
a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*

Luke 3:3

Welcome

Our entire Parish Families welcome all of you who have come to worship with us today. We encourage you to participate fully in the spiritual, ministerial and social life of our parish community. If needed, please contact your Parish Office to register.

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal instruction. Please contact your Parish Office to make arrangements for this opportunity for spiritual renewal

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples contemplating marriage should notify your Parish Office at least six months before the date of their intended marriage.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick is for the comfort and strength of the ill. It is not just intended for those in immediate danger of death. It is a help and comfort to the living. If a parishioner is homebound or

PENANCE SERVICES

ST. JOHN NEUMANN December 16th @ 2:00pm

ST. ANN December 16 @ 4:00pm

ST. VINCENT de PAUL December 12, @ 7:00pm

ST. JOSEPH/ST. PATRICK December 17 @7:00pm at St. Joseph's

COMPASSIONATE CARE HOSPICE ADULT BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Belle Reve Senior Living is offering 7 group sessions which starting September 20th. Group is intended for adult men and women who are grieving a loss. Group will provide emotional comfort in a safe environment. The purpose of this group is to provide information about the grief process. The following are dates that the Group will be meeting, October 4th, November 1, November 15, December 6 and December 20th at 11:00 RSVP is strongly encouraged (570) 476-0150.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

is looking for volunteers to drive cancer patients in our community to and from their treatment appointments. To learn more about how you can get involved and help make a difference in someone's life, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

This number is for a death or Anointing of the Sick only for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Any messages or questions left at this number pertaining to regular Office business will not be answered.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MASS

Would you like to know more about the meaning of the Mass, the source and summit of Catholic Christian life? Join Deacon Thomas Spataro during the December Advent Season on Tuesdays, December 4, December 11, and December 18 at 7:00pm. At St. Patrick's Church, Milford. Deacon Tom will hold weekly enlightening discussions based on Bishop Robert Barron's series "The Mass". All are welcome, please plan to join us. For further information call the Parish Office of St. Patrick's at 570 296-7451.

NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

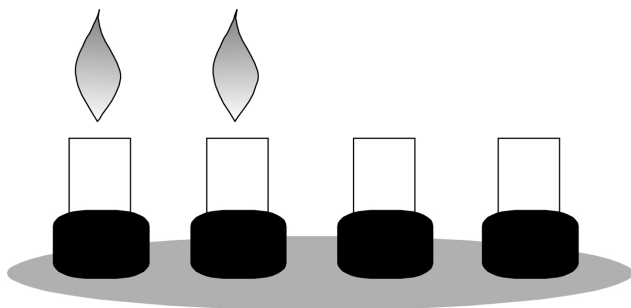
It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

DECEMBER CALENDAR CHANGE

Please note there is NO Mass on Thursday, December 27th at St. Joseph's.

DEANERY CHOIR

Presents a delightful, interactive Theater-in-the-Round Advent/Christmas Concert and Pageant Friday December 14, 2018 at 7:00pm at St. John Neumann Church. Bring the whole family. No Admission charge! Optional Attire: Christmas Sweaters (ugly or not) In case of severe inclement weather, a cancellation notice will be posted publicly on Facebook.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 15-16

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector <i>Declan Carroll</i>
Eucharistic Minister <i>Jackie Padgett</i> <i>Diane Sierra</i>
Altar Servers <i>Robert McMullen</i> <i>Mark Cavallaro</i>
Sunday 8:30am
Lector <i>Larry Marcial</i>
Eucharistic Minister <i>Makayla Csencsits</i> <i>Kathleen Warne</i>
Altar Server <i>Ryan & Eric</i> <i>Schanzenbacher</i>
Milford Senior Care 12/9 Lois Lazarczyk <i>12/14 Carol Cordova</i>

BROTHER JUNIPER



The Sanctuary Candle
burns
In Memory of
Margaret Cordisco
By
The Cordisco Family

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Again this year the Poinsettia's that will be placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost will be \$15.00 per plant. Special RED envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. Deadline for your response is 12/17. A list of the memorialized will appear in the December 22/23 bulletin.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The "Advent Giving Tree" is in our Vestibule along with a Bassinet. The tree is decorated with ornaments made by our CCD Children. Please take an ornament, purchase the item written on the back, and return your donation to the Bassinet. Your donated gift will be given to the Tri-State Pregnancy Center for distribution to needy families... Thank you for your generosity!

ADULT CHOIR - If you are feeling called to serve the parish and enjoy singing, PLEASE CALL me, Mare Bradley, at 845-754-3620. **Adult Choir practice will be on Wednesday's from 5 - 6 pm in the Church.**

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY NEEDED - Greeting parishioners and visitors is an important part of the hospitality of our church. The function of a minister of hospitality is designed to make all first-time guests and parishioners feel welcome. We are in the process of forming a pool of church greeters and would like your help. If you are interested in this Ministry or would like more information about it, please contact the Parish Office 570-491-2618.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF MATAMORAS & MILFORD

will be at the front entrance to the Church selling their Annual Lottery Calendar Booklets. Cost is \$20.00 per booklet. These numbered booklets are good for the whole year and you win \$\$ according to the daily lottery number. This is a great Christmas gift or stocking stuffer! Stop by their table before or after Mass!

ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY - Our next food pantry will be Friday, January 11, 2019 from 6 - 8pm (Team D). To volunteer call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506. Thank you for your continued support.

COFFEE SOCIAL - Our next Coffee Social will be held Sunday, December 30th. A variety of foods will be available including "no sugar added" foods! All are welcome! Anyone wishing to donate baked goods call Lee Kenney at 570-491-2620.

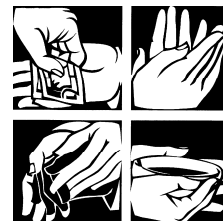
Weekly Offering

Last Year

December 2, 2018
\$4653.00

December 3, 2017
\$4241.85

Thank you for your generosity!



"We, the parish of St. Joseph's, in union with our Holy Father, our bishop, and our pastor, seek to grow in holiness as a welcoming and caring family reaching out to all. As a faith-filled community celebrating the Eucharist, we strive to enrich our spiritual lives by cultivating a deeper relationship with Christ through the sacraments. We are united in faith and find unity in diversity as we pray for the grace to use our gifts and talents to promote the knowledge of God's love."

PRAY THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Wednesdays at 2:40pm. During Adoration of Our Most Merciful Savior in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. The Holy Father, St. John Paul II imparted a special Apostolic Blessing "to all the faithful, who during Adoration of Our Most Merciful Savior in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, will be praying the Divine Mercy chaplet for the sick and those throughout the world who will be dying in that hour." The Apostolic Blessing extends indefinitely for all who participate.

MASS AT BELLE REVE

Join Father Joseph as he celebrates Mass with the residents of Belle Reve Wednesday, December 19th at 2:30pm.

BULLETIN BLURBS

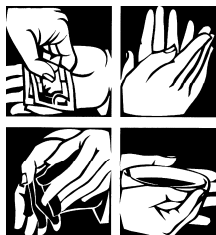
"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother. Not sure how to help or what to say?" Learn ten tips at www.usccb.org/support-her." "10 Ways to Support Her when She's Unexpectedly Expecting" USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE HOME VISITATION

The Legion of Mary has a beautiful replica of the original statue of Our Lady of Fatima which travels around the world promoting the message of peace and love. Part of the work of the Legion of Mary is home visitation with our statue of Mary. The purpose of this program is to aid families in responding to Mary's requests during her apparitions at Fatima to: return to God, make reparation for sins, and to pray the Rosary daily for peace. Only a few moments of welcoming prayer upon arrival and farewell prayer upon the statue's leaving is required. You will be inspired. Please contact Catherine Umberto (570) 491-5820 or Jeanne Ryan (570) 428-2023 if interested.

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

The Poinsettia's and flowers that are placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost is \$10.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes are at all entrances to the church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection. Deadline is 12/17. A list of the memorializations will appear in the December 22nd bulletin.



Weekly Collection
December 2, 2018
\$3,332.00
This time last year
\$3,719.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory
December 2, 2018
\$ 1,014.00

Year to Date July '18- Current
\$11,775.00

Goal for the Year \$100,000
Thank you for your generosity!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 15/16

Saturday 5:30pm

Lector David Stine

Communion Ministers

Pat Corcoran, Colleen Sheldon

Altar Servers

Riley Mapes, Nicole Traxler

Sunday 11:00am

Lector Ray Proulx

Communion Ministers

Donna Hersca, Catherine Umberto

Altar Servers

Caterina Catizone, Nicholas Dinos

*The Sanctuary Candle
burns in memory of
Robert Kyle
requested by The Family*

St. Patrick's Parish is the presence of the Catholic Church in a diverse and vibrant area of northeastern Pennsylvania. As disciples, we dedicate ourselves to hearing, learning and sharing the good news of God's Word as we reverently celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Together, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we seek to know, love and serve God. We strive to promote a culture of love and respect for all human life and for the beautiful world in which we live. We welcome all people to participate in the spiritual and social life of our parish family.

WEEK 2, evening lighting prayer

Prayer said by Father or head of household

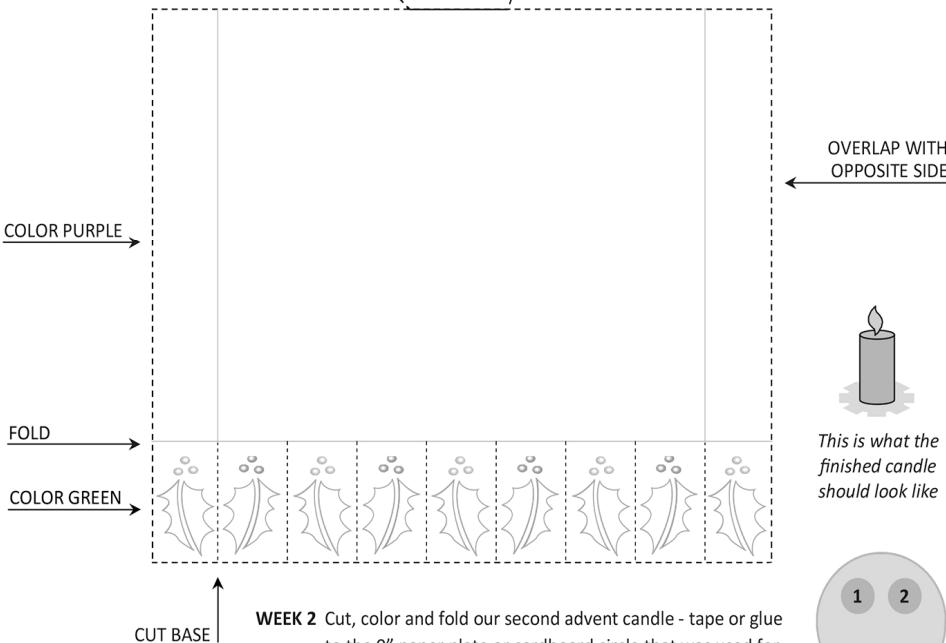
"O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Oldest child lights 2 purple candles.

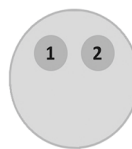
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



--- COLOR & CUT ON DOTTED LINES ---



WEEK 2 Cut, color and fold our second advent candle - tape or glue to the 9" paper plate or cardboard circle that was used for the first candle. Place as shown on the diagram at right.



This is what the finished candle should look like

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 10

Advent Weekday

Is 35:1-10

Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

DECEMBER 11

Advent Weekday

Is 40:1-11

Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a;

12:1-6a, 10ab

Lk 1:26-38 or

Lk 1:39-47

Thursday

DECEMBER 13

St. Lucy,

Virgin and Martyr

Is 41:13-20

Mt 11:11-15

Friday

DECEMBER 14

St. John of the Cross,

Priest and Doctor

of the Church

Is 48:17-19

Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

DECEMBER 15

Advent Weekday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

DECEMBER 16

Third Sunday

of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a

Phil 4:4-7

Lk 3:10-18

Daily Prayer

Finding intimacy with God in the midst of our busy lives begins with getting in touch with our own desires. Advent is a wonderful time to ask myself, "What am I looking for? What do I desire? What longing can I recognize in my heart?" The answers to those questions will be our best guide for daily prayer. The readings this week offer some possible ways to talk with the Lord about our desires.

We can begin by trying to get in touch with a part of my heart that is divided, perhaps with a desert separating the two parts. For example, is there a disconnect between my primary commitments and the amount of time and attention that I give to them? Is there a distance between who I say I am and who I actually am? Do I experience something missing between what I believe and how I live those beliefs? We all have these contradictions and inconsistencies within us. These are the places into which we can let our Advent desiring grow. This week, we can imagine the prophet saying, "There will be a path between what is separate or divided or at a distance in

your life!" or "What is desert, barren, dry and life-less in you will come to life!" We can hear, "You will find freedom and comfort, where you have been finding yourself in a captivity to pattern and routine, where you have felt weak and weary." "Learn from the Lord and learn real wisdom."

When one or more of these desires really strikes a chord in our hearts, Advent begins for us. Each morning this week, we can turn to our God, when we first wake up, while in the shower or getting dressed, and simply ask: "Come, Lord. Come into this place, into this embarrassing place of need in my life." We may be able to be specific and ask, "Please, Lord, come and be with me and bring life and hope into my morning as I face this meeting." As we go to work or do laundry or shop, or head home from work, we might ask even more specifically for the grace to love - to take the liberating journey across the desert and let the Lord bring us home to a place of comfort, healing and peace.

Advent is about our coming to a felt sense of our need for a Savior and letting our Savior into our hearts to save us. Advent comes alive for us as we identify our desires and let them be expressed as longing and expectant hope. Into this space our Lord comes with good news, healing and a peace the world can't give. As we taste our desires and longing grow, we can give thanks each evening before we go to bed, to acknowledge we are being given a great grace of a growing intimacy with our God, right in the midst of our very busy days. Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html> Used with permission. <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/>