

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

## Remembering

Dec.3 - Dec. 9

### MONDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✙ **Frank Morgiewicz**  
Mr. & Mrs. John Hess

### TUESDAY

12:00pm

✙ **Louis Black**  
Kari Moranti

### WEDNESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

✙ **Rosalind Nathan**  
Phil Brennan

### THURSDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✙ **Jerry Dilger &  
Frank Morgiewicz**  
His Parents and  
the Book Cellar Club

### FRIDAY

**Feast of The Immaculate  
Conception Vigil**

7:00pm (SJ)

**Geraldine Maun**  
St. Joseph's Altar &  
Rosary Society

### SATURDAY

**Feast of The Immaculate  
Conception**

12:00pm (SP)

**Joseph Umberto**  
Wife, Catherine

4:00pm (SJ)

✙ **Jerry Dilger**  
Eleanor Roll

5:30pm (SP)

✙ **Anthony & Frank  
DeMeo & Concetta &  
Anthony DaMato**  
Ciro

### SUNDAY

8:30am (SJ)

✙ **For the People of St.  
Joseph's Parish**

11:00am (SP)

✙ **Robert Kyle**



## Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent (C)

Jer 33:14-16

1 Thes 3:12-4:2

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

## God's Promise of Real Treasure

If anyone can keep a promise, it's God. His very nature is to be faithful to his promises and to fulfill all he has foretold. His promise after the fall of Adam and Eve was to send us a Redeemer, to bring peace to Jerusalem, and to reestablish his reign on earth. The prophets continually reminded the chosen race of God's fidelity and, although things looked far from their fulfillment, they insisted that God is faithful and would deliver.

Jesus, the ultimate fulfillment of God's promise, comes in two phases. First, by coming as a baby in Bethlehem. This Incarnation and his arrival as Savior

is what we're preparing to receive this Advent. Extra prayers, generous giving of your time, and special sacrifices are the best way to ready your soul for his coming.

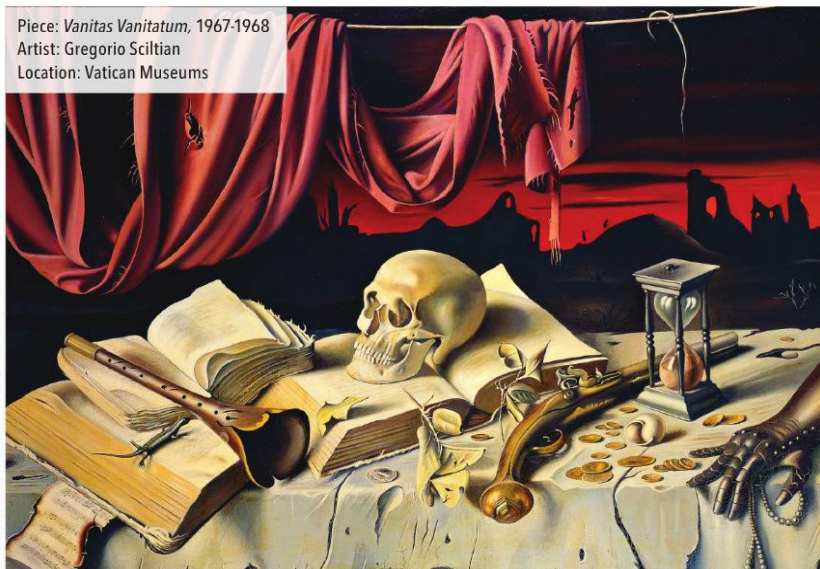
Jesus' Second Coming will bring to completion what he started on the cross. His glorious return, which all of creation will foretell in those last days, is when the full effects of Christ's victory on the cross will be seen at the judgment of all living creatures.

The advice for all Christians in this period of waiting and preparation is to keep watch; to not allow the delay to lead us to drowsiness. Don't let the vanities of this world dazzle us, for in time, they will become dust.

God promises real treasures that will endure forever, and as we know, God keeps his promises.

— Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: Vanitas Vanitatum, 1967-1968  
Artist: Gregorio Sciltian  
Location: Vatican Museums



### For Reflection

Am I preparing my  
soul for Christ's  
coming by prayer,  
fasting, and  
almsgiving?

Have I settled on  
which concrete acts I  
will do?

*[Jesus said,] "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy  
from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life."*

*Luke 21:34*

## 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

### **NEW R.C.I.A. CLASS**

A new R.C.I.A. class is about to begin. If you, or someone you know, are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith, think about joining us. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is for the non baptized and for Catholics who have never completed their sacraments of Initiation, which include Confirmation and Eucharist. It is also for people who have been baptized in another faith and are interested to learn more about becoming a Catholic. You will be meeting with a team of parishioners who will answer questions and guide you on your faith journey. We meet on Sunday afternoons for one hour. Please call the office at 570-296-7451 if you are interested. Ask for Deacon Tom. We promise to make you feel very welcome!

### **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](http://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).

### **TEPEYAC FIESTA FOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

We will be celebrating our annual Fiesta for the Virgin of Guadalupe's feast day on Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30. We hope to have music, prayers in Spanish/English and refreshments after. Volunteers are needed. Please call Pat Corcoran at 570-409-9089 to volunteer to help with beautiful Mass celebration. The Mass is in remembrance of Deacon Cliff.



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 8-9

**Saturday 4:00pm****Lector**

Tom McMullen

**Eucharistic Minister**

Stanley Lazarczyk

Carol Cordova

**Altar Servers**

David Marcial

Ella Carroll

**Sunday 8:30am****Lector**

Diana Sierra

**Eucharistic Minister**

Neal &amp; Michele Bensley

**Altar Server**

Lucas Helms

Draven Nitecki

**Milford Senior Care**

12/2 Jack Reilly

12/9 Lois Lazarczyk

BROTHER JUNIPER

The Sanctuary Candle  
burns

In Memory of

**Josephine &  
Carmine Alaimo**

The Williams Family

**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!

**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.

**ADULT CHOIR FORMING!** - If you are feeling called to serve the parish and enjoy singing, PLEASE CALL me, Mare Bradley, at 845-754-3620. You could also see me after 4:00 Mass or 8:30 Mass.

**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 4, 2019 from 6 - 8pm (Team D). To volunteer call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506. Thank you for your continued support.

**ADVENT WREATH**

The Advent Wreath was given by Jane Drake

In Memory of the Deceased Members of the Lapriore & Drake Families

The Advent Wreath Candles were given by Michele & Neal Bensley

In Memory of the Deceased Members of the Ricciardi & Bensley Families

Weekly Offering  
**November 25, 2018**

\$3229.26

**11/18/18**

\$4505.22

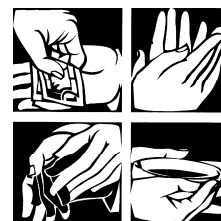
Thank you for your generosity!

Last Year  
**November 26, 2017**

\$3485.50

**11/19/2017**

\$3562.91



**"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.

**FOOD PANTRY** Saint Patrick's team will serve at the Food Pantry on this Friday, December 7th at 6:00pm.

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree is up and the ornaments have been placed on the tree. Please take an ornament off and bring the gift back wrapped with the tag attached by next Sunday, December 9th.

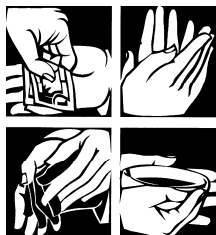
## MOVIE MATINEE

The Legion of Mary will be showing "The Star", an animated film, on December 2, 2018. It will be shown after 11:00 Mass in the Church Hall. The running time is approximately 60 minutes and refreshments will be available. This would be a delightful way to begin Advent for the whole family, especially the children, There is no admission charge. We hope you will join us.

## 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  
November 25, 2018  
**\$1,820.00**  
*This time last year*  
\$2,659.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory  
November 25, 2018  
\$ 828.00

Year to Date July '18- Current  
\$10,761.00  
Goal for the Year \$100,000  
*Thank you for your generosity!*

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 8-9

**Saturday 5:30pm**

**Lector** Jack Boyle

**Communion Ministers**  
Janet Finnerty, Pat Boyle

**Altar Servers**  
Carli Lock, Vincent Saski

**Sunday 11:00am**

**Lector** Cheryl McCarthy

**Communion Ministers**  
Ray Weeks, Colleen Sheldon

**Altar Servers**  
Jason Lecina, Nicole Traxler

*The Sanctuary Candle  
burns in memory of  
**Father Mullally***

**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.**

## Gospel Today

First Sunday of Advent | Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus tells us to be on guard, and be watchful for His coming.

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### WEEK 1, evening lighting prayer

Prayer said by Father or head of household

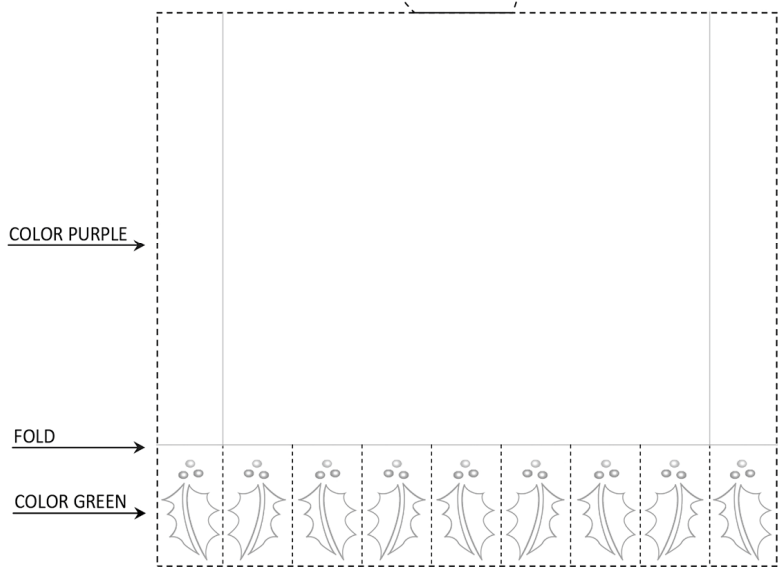
"O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Youngest child lights 1 purple candle.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

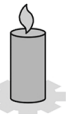


--- COLOR & CUT ON DOTTED LINES ---



ROLL & OVERLAP  
EDGES & GLUE OR  
TAPE TOGETHER

OVERLAP WITH  
OPPOSITE SIDE



This is what the  
finished candle  
should look like

CUT BASE

**WEEK 1** Cut, color and fold our first advent candle - tape or glue to a 9" paper plate or cardboard circle that has been colored green. Place as shown on the diagram at right.

1

## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 2:1-5

Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 4

Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10

Lk 10:21-24

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 5

Advent Weekday

Is 25:6-10a

Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday

DECEMBER 6

Advent Weekday

Is 26:1-6

Mt 7:21, 24-27

### Friday

DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose, Bishop and  
Doctor of the Church

Is 29:17-24

Mt 9:27-31

### Saturday

DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Lk 1:26-38

### Sunday

DECEMBER 9

Second Sunday  
of Advent

Bar 5:1-9

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Lk 3:1-6

## Daily Prayer

Despite all of the distractions at this time of year, we really can focus on Advent during these weeks. We seem to get very busy, and at times have to go to a number of social events or wrestle with budgets and shopping, but the heart of this season is all about expectant hope. So, we begin our Advent journey by giving ourselves some time - just a few minutes each day - to reflect on how much God promises us.

Each morning this week, while we are first coming to consciousness, we can name a desire, name an emptiness or feeling of anxiety or worry that we can feel. It is into the raw places in our lives such as these, that our Lord came to be with us. So, this week, we can begin to invite our Lord to be Incarnate in our lives, in the places we need him the most.

Our goal this week is to let ourselves feel like those to whom the promises of our God are made. We want to get in touch with ourselves, especially those parts of ourselves that are in need of a Savior. We do this by keeping our focus on the places that feel like a desert,

the places that feel like we've been through a war, the places that feel like a lifeless stump. When we have a hard time seeing, we ask for the grace to be able to believe the promise that we shall see. When we seem deaf, we place our trust in the One who assures us that we will hear. And when we feel beaten down and awfully lowly, we turn to the One who promises that we will "find joy in the Lord." And, who among us doesn't have days on which we are aware of various kinds of wounds? On the day of promise, "the Lord binds up the wounds of his people."

As we let these deep realities of our daily, busy lives come into focus and interact with the readings, something wonderful happens. We become more and more aware of our need for God. Very naturally and quite spontaneously, a prayer comes forth from deep within us, which we can say in the smallest moments of our busiest days. "Come, Lord." "Come and save me." "Come and be with me in all of these messy, empty, dry and disordered places in my life." "Come, Lord. I feel my longing for you grow. I feel my hope grow. And, as I place my hope in your promises, Advent begins to come alive in me."

All of this preparation can happen in the simplest way, before the first Christmas decoration goes up. And, for each moment of each day that we encounter a place that we desire, that we long for our Lord's coming, we can express our thanksgiving. Each night we might pray:  
The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?  
The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?" (Ps. 27).