

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

## Remembering

Dec. 12-18

### MONDAY

8:00 AM (SJ)

✠ **Ronald Long**  
*The Family*

### TUESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

✠ **Ethel Fean**  
*Bonnie & Paul Schatteman*

### WEDNESDAY

12:00pm

✠ **Father Mullally**

### THURSDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✠ **Annie Catalano**  
*Jack & Doreen Reilly*

### FRIDAY

No Mass

### SATURDAY

4:00 (SJ)

✠ **William Fontana Sr.**  
*Mr. & Mrs. John Hess*

5:30pm (SP)

✠ **All Deceased Members  
of the Burnham Family**  
*John Burnham*

### SUNDAY

7:30am (SP)

✠ **Megan Bolehala**  
*Bryan & Beth Bolehala*

9:00am (SJ)

✠ **Deceased Members of  
the Tescione & Puglisi  
Families**  
*The Family*

11:00am (SP)

✠ **For the People of  
St. Joseph and  
St. Patrick Parishes**



## Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10

Jas 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11

## Be Strong and Fear Not

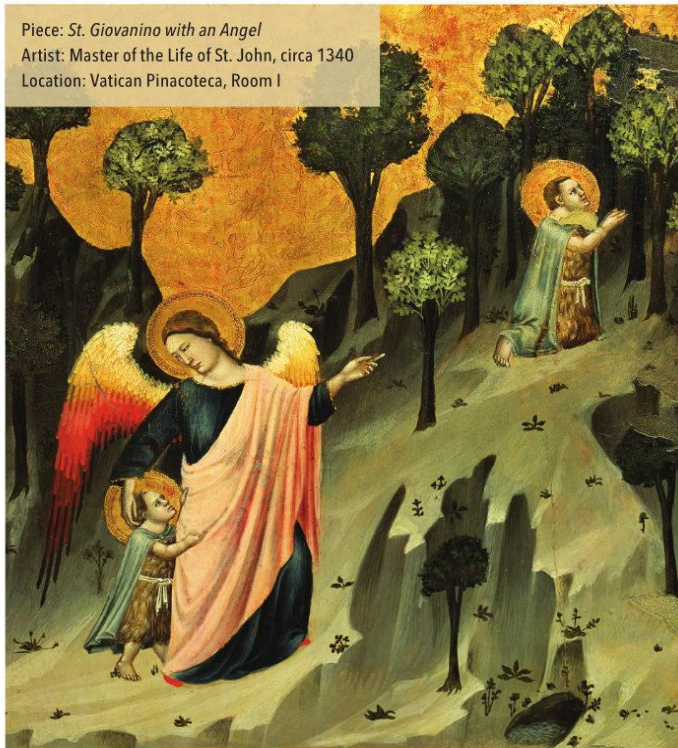
John came to announce a savior, but in his difficult imprisonment, he and his disciples began to wonder if the one he announced was truly the one. It is easy to doubt when difficulty comes our way and life doesn't treat us as we think we deserve.

In this painting, a young John the Baptist is accompanied by an angel who points up the hill. John is shown kneeling in prayer, referencing the months he spent in the desert preparing himself as well as preaching conversion. Even with this long and fruitful preparation, John's heart is tempted to doubt. Yes, even saints struggle.

John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the Messiah. It does us much good to bring our concerns and doubts to Jesus directly! Jesus responds as he often does. Rather than just answer, "I am he"—which could easily be considered an empty claim—he invites them to look at the evidence. He fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah 35:5: "The eyes of the blind shall see, and the ears of the deaf be opened," the poor shall find a new reason to hope.

Jesus' mission is to change lives and to save us from the blindness of egoism, the deafness of a hardened heart, and the closed mind that cannot accept the other. He is the savior of those who let themselves be saved.

Piece: St. Giovanino with an Angel  
Artist: Master of the Life of St. John, circa 1340  
Location: Vatican Pinacoteca, Room I



Saint James' exhortation could have been meant for John the Baptist or anyone who finds it hard to persevere in trusting and following Jesus: "You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (5:8).

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### For Reflection

What doubts about God  
arise in my heart?  
How do I deal with these  
moments of uncertainty?

*"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"  
(Matthew 11:3).*

## 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 hospitalized, please contact your Parish Office.

## POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

The Poinsettias that will be placed in the Sanctuary at both St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes during Christmas can be memorialized. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes are at the entrances to both Churches. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at your respective Parish Office. Deadline for your response is December 19th. A list of the memorializations will appear in the December 25th Bulletin.

## A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN!

An original Broadway-Style Musical Comedy The Saint John Neumann Players (combined Deanery and other Choirs, along with St John Neumann Youth Group), will be presenting an original Broadway style musical comedy on Friday, Dec 16 and Saturday Dec 17 at St John Neumann Church Hall in Lord's Valley, PA. The Saturday show will be a dinner theater, with dining room service by the St John Neumann Youth Group. Ticket prices are \$10 for Friday evening show, and \$20 for Saturday evening show with dinner. A generous portion of the proceeds will be donated to Food for Families, a social ministry program of St John Neumann Church. Reservations are now being taken for both dates by calling Linda at 570-775-0727.

## MASS IN SPANISH

For The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Monday, December 12th at 7pm St. Mary's Church, Ball Street, Port Jervis, NY. Confessions will be heard before Mass at 6:30pm in Spanish or English.

## RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

**Aging religious need your help** Senior Catholic Sisters, brother and religious order priests have offered their lives I service to others - educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus John Paul II Council 13935 is sponsoring a blood drive at St. Patrick's Church Hall on Wednesday, December 28th from 1 to 6. (Free long-sleeve Red Cross T-shirts when you come to donate December 22nd—January 8, while supplies last)

## REKINDLE THE FLAME

For couples **who already have made** a Marriage Encounter. A community group has been formed. Our next meeting will be held at St. John Neumann's Rectory on Monday, January 9th from 7 to 9pm,. For more information call (570) 775-1647.

## LOOKING AHEAD.....

### Advent Penance Services

**St. Ann/St. John Neumann** Sunday, December 11th 2:00pm at St. Ann's, Shohola

**St. Vincent de Paul**, Dingmans Ferry Wednesday, December 14th 7:00pm

**St. Joseph/St. Patrick**, Monday, December 19th 7:00pm at St. Joseph's, Matamoras.

### Christmas Eve Masses

Mass Saturday, December 24th at St. Joseph's 4:00PM

Mass Saturday, December 24th at St. Patrick's 6:00PM and 10:00PM

### Christmas Day—Sunday, December 25th

Mass at St. Joseph's 9:00AM

Mass at St. Patrick's 10:00AM

### NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY

We will follow our normal weekend Mass schedule.

### Offices will be closed between Christmas and New Year's

**WINTER STORMS—(Daily Mass only)** Both Parishes will follow the Delaware Valley School District closings. If there is a 2 hour delay or a school closing there will be no daily Mass. This does not include Holydays. To find out if there is a delay/closing call 570-296-1800 or visit the Delaware Valley School District Website [www.dvdsd.org](http://www.dvdsd.org)

### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

An emergency phone number has been established for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's parishes should you be in need of a priest for life threatening emergencies, Anointing of the sick or death. The number is (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Only messages with the emergencies mentioned above will be returned. This number is available to you on both Parishes answering machines.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 17-18

**Saturday 4:00pm****Lector***Debi Cotugno***Eucharistic Minister***Diana Sierra**Bill Reed***Altar Servers***Ryan & Eric Schanzenbacher***Sunday 9:00am****Lector***Matt Cavallaro***Eucharistic Minister***Anna Blackman**Paul Cavallaro***Altar Servers***Ella Carroll**Draven Nitecki***November Altar Server Of the Month: *Daniel Bradley*****Milford Senior Care****12/11 Jack Reilly**

12/18 Carol Cordova

BROTHER JUNIPER



The  
Sanctuary Candle  
burns

In Memory of  
**Robert Bond**  
by  
The Bensley Family

**ADVENT GIVING TREE**

The "Advent Giving Tree" is in our Vestibule along with the 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. The gift that you donate will be given to the Tri-State Pregnancy Center for distribution to needy families... Thank you for your generosity!

**POINSETTIA MEMORIALS**

The Poinsettias that will be placed in the Sanctuary during Christmas can be memorialized. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelope into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. Deadline is December 19th. A list of the memorializations will appear in the December 25th Bulletin. Only the Special RED Envelopes will reserve your Poinsettia...Thank you!

**RELIGIOUS FORMATION BOOK DRIVE**

The Book Drive was a HUGE success! Thank you to all of the parishioners who donated books, money, gift cards, wrapping supplies, refreshments, etc. to our service project. The kids collected, sorted, wrapped, and labeled over 300 books to be distributed to area children in need. This was a wonderful day of putting our faith into action! Thank you all!

**ALTAR & ROSARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

Thank you to all who attended, volunteered, and donated to the Annual Holiday bazaar. It is with all of you that we are a success!

This year's Raffle Winners: \$500 Sue Mills, \$100 Sue Clayton, \$50 The Yakupcin Family, Beer Brew Shop Kris Savarese, Winter Wreath Mary Gaa, Girl Pillow Cases, Vase & Picture, & Fall Pumpkin Nancy Vocci, Boy Pillow Cases Irma Aschoff, Thanksgiving Décor' Kathryn Helms, Christmas Tree Carol Simmons. Congratulations to all!

**CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES**

Can be picked up in your child's CCD Class. Children that are not registered in CCD can pick up their Envelope Box from the counter at the front entrance to the Church.

**COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Every Monday in the Rectory after the 8:00am Mass. Come join Father Vito and discuss current events, Church happenings, or anything on your mind. All are invited!

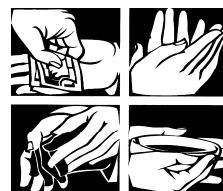
**FOOD PANTRY** - Our next food pantry will be Friday, December 16th from 6 - 8pm (Team C). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

**COFFEE SOCIAL** - Our next Coffee Social will be Sunday, January 15th. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods please call Lee Kenney at 570-491-2620.

Weekly Offering  
**December 4, 2016**  
3683.70 (1st)  
456.00 (2nd)

Last Year  
**December 6, 2015**  
\$ 4110.67 (1st)  
\$ 534.00 (2nd)

*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."**



## RELIGIOUS ED. VOLUNTEER NEEDED

It is with much regret that our 3rd grade Teacher, Colleen McCarthy has resigned. We wish her happiness and good health in all she does. She will be greatly missed. If anyone is interested in becoming a 3rd Grade teacher, please contact JoMarie Totten, the Director of Religious Ed at 570 296-7451.

## CHRISTMAS MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S

In addition to the Christmas Mass Schedule that has been in the bulletin, please note that we have **added** Christmas Day Mass at 10:00am here at St. Patrick's

## YOUTH GROUP

**Saturday, December 17 following the 5:30 Mass we will be volunteering at the Children's Party. We will have pizza after; Friday, December 23— Food Pantry at 6:00pm.**

## FOOD PANTRY

St. Patrick's Team will serve on December 23rd at 6:00pm.

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

A special thank you to everyone who took an ornament off the tree to help our Angel Tree program. Please remember these gifts are due back this weekend, December 12th. We will distribute the gifts this week.

## PILGRIM VIRGIN

The original Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was sculpted by Jose Lledim in 1946 following indications given to him by sister Lucia. It was solemnly crowned on May 13, 1947 in Portugal and from that day has traveled around the world promoting the message of peace and love. The legion of Mary here at St. Patrick has a replica of this statue and parishioners may have the Pilgrim Virgin "visit" their home. Anyone interested may contact Catherin Umberto 570 491-5820.

## FIRST PENANCE CANDIDATES

Let us continue to keep in our prayers the following students who have received their First Penance, Krislynn Acevedo, Brendan Baird, Brian Byrnes, Alex Calvario, Olivia Coe, Courtney Davey, Cecelia Dickerson, Matthew Ertola, Andrew Foley, Amanda Hart, Heidi Hodany, Lelaina Hopper, Logen Justino, Juliana Krabill-Aiello, Matthew Marotta, Jack Morris, Alexandra Morton, Sophia Mullen, Sophia O'Connell, Lucas Purdon, Dominic Totten, Julia VanJahnke, Samuel Wood.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Saturday 5:30pm

#### Lector

*Cheryl McCarthy*

#### Communion Ministers

*Janet Finnerty, Jeanne Ryan, Pat corcoran*

#### Altar Servers

*Carli Lock, Riley Mapes*

### Sunday 7:30am

#### Lector Ray Proulx

#### Communion Ministers

*Donna Hersca, Clorinda Alfano, Karen Loeschorn*

#### Altar Servers

*Roger Neff, Sean Rinkel*

### Sunday 11:00am

#### Lector

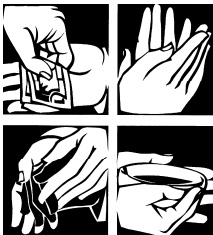
*Peter Prigge*

#### Communion Ministers

*Linda Coffey, Colleen Sheldon, Ray Weeks*

#### Altar Servers

*Nicholas Dinos, Michaela Lawlor*



### Weekly Offering

**December 4, 2016**

**\$4,100.00**

*Last year*

*November 24, 2015*

**\$4,146.00**

### Weekly Mortgage Offertory

**December 4, 2016**

**\$857.00**

**Year to Date July 16' - Current**

**\$30,873.04**

**Goal for the Year \$100,000**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### The Sanctuary Candle

*burns for*

**Maria Charzewska**

*Theresa*

**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.**



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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

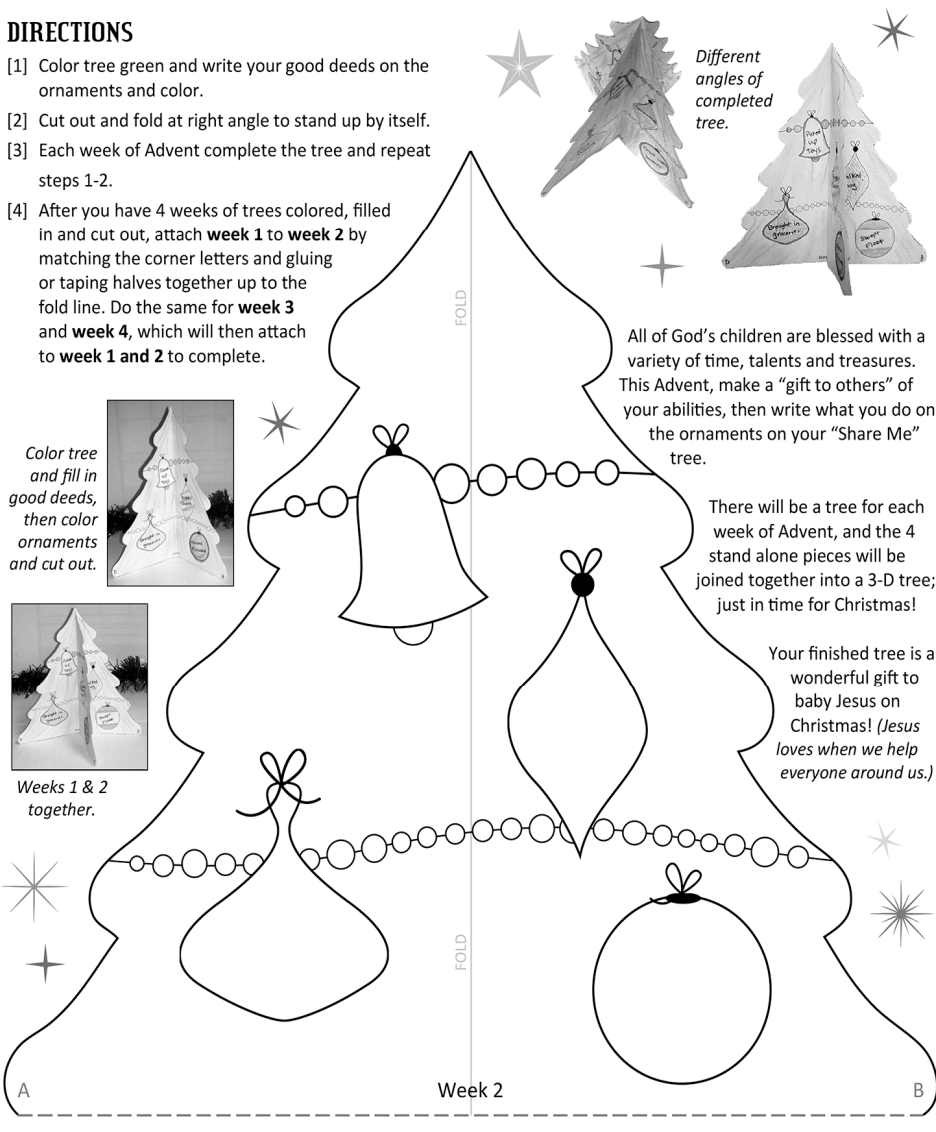
### DIRECTIONS

- [1] Color tree green and write your good deeds on the ornaments and color.
- [2] Cut out and fold at right angle to stand up by itself.
- [3] Each week of Advent complete the tree and repeat steps 1-2.
- [4] After you have 4 weeks of trees colored, filled in and cut out, attach **week 1** to **week 2** by matching the corner letters and gluing or taping halves together up to the fold line. Do the same for **week 3** and **week 4**, which will then attach to **week 1** and **2** to complete.

Color tree and fill in good deeds, then color ornaments and cut out.



Weeks 1 & 2 together.



### Calendar

#### Monday

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

#### Tuesday

December 13  
St. Lucy,  
Virgin and Martyr  
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13  
Mt 21:28-32

#### Wednesday

December 14  
St. John of the Cross,  
Priest and  
Doctor of the Church  
Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25  
Lk 7:18b-23

#### Thursday

December 15  
Advent Weekday  
Is 54:1-10  
Lk 7:24-30

#### Friday

December 16  
Advent Weekday  
Is 56:1-3a, 6-8  
Jn 5:33-36

#### Saturday

December 17  
Advent Weekday  
Gn 49:2, 8-10  
Mt 1:1-17

#### Sunday

December 18  
Fourth Sunday  
of Advent  
Is 7:10-14  
Rom 1:1-7  
Mt 1:18-24

### Daily Prayer this Week

*This third week of Advent, our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is near.*

*For some of us, the great grace will be to ask that expectant hope - and the joy that this can bring - will fill our hearts and replace whatever is heavy or dark or sad there. We can only let our Lord bring good news to us in our own poverty, if we acknowledge that we are poor in some ways. He can only proclaim liberty and release to us if we can admit that we are captives and prisoners to so many habits and patterns that inhibit joy.*

*This is a week of recognizing ourselves, and recognizing our need for a Savior - a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas.*

*We can only turn to our God and trust in the safety we find accepting our God as the only god of our lives, if we first can name the place in which we are in danger from the choices we are making.*

*We can surrender our fear of being put to shame by humbly coming face to face with the un-humble person we can sometimes be. The depths of gratitude and joy come when we can experience the tenderness with which our Lord keeps taking us back.*

*This is a wonderful week to examine our consciences as we let our daily, prayerfilled background moments interact with some of the places in our daily lives in which we discover the need for mercy and peace. Wherever we encounter some experience of darkness or fear, some struggle with faith or hope, some discouragement about my own generosity or freedom, it is there that we have an opportunity to pause, in the briefest way and pray, "Come, Lord Jesus; come and visit me here, in this place." Preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, individually or in common, can be a powerful Advent religious experience. And the one who forgives us deeply desires to heal us and give us his peace.*

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/>