

# The Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017



## Saturday, December 23

- 9:00** Paul and Sophie Piekara  
**5:30** John Kennedy  
**7:00** Para todos los miembros de nuestra iglesia  
Sagrado Corazon - Bilingual Mass

## Sunday, December 24

- 8:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**10:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**12:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**4:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
Children's Mass  
**6:00** William Streicher  
Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
**8:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**9:30** Christmas Novena of Masses – Bilingual  
**10:00** Christmas Novena of Masses - Polish

## Monday, December 25 Christmas

- 8:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**10:00** Christmas Novena of Masses  
**12:00** Christmas Novena of Masses

## Tuesday, December 26

- 9:00** Michael Foley Jr. Zofia Kadziolka

## Wednesday, December 27

- 9:00** Michael Moavero, Thomas Streicher

## Thursday, December 28

- 9:00** Eileen Nolan

## Friday, December 29

- 9:00** Thanksgiving Mass

## Saturday, December 30

- 9:00** James Grupp, Jose Farjardo Sr.  
**5:30** Elwood P. Schuck, Tina Ferraro  
**7:00** Para todos los miembros de nuestra iglesia  
Sagrado Corazon - Bilingual Mass

## Sunday, December 31

- 8:00** James Grupp  
**10:00** Phil Fillingham  
**12:00** Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
**6:00** Antonia Santoro



## Pope Francis' Intention for December

### The Elderly

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

## Religious Education Program

Hall Monitors are still needed for our Program on Monday afternoon from 4:30 - 6 pm and on the first Monday of the month from 7 - 8:30 pm. Call Sr. rose if you can help at 782-7420

Our **English as a 2nd Language Program**. We are in need of instructors to help in an informal setting. No need to speak another language. Classes are held on Thursday evening from 7 - 8:30 pm and Saturday morning from 9:30 - 11 am at the school. Please consider joining us. Call Sr. Rose at 782-7420.

## Fund a Religious Education Student

Not every family in our parish is able to afford the registration fees which cover the expense of books and supplies. If you would like to "adopt" a child/family this year it would be most appreciated!!

## Opportunity

Would you like to provide a \$5,000 scholarship to provide one year of Catholic Education for a child at Sacred Heart School? A partial scholarship of any amount is of course most welcome as well to help defray the unavoidable costs of providing a daily Catholic Education for the future of our Church. Please see Fr. Tom or Mrs. Muenkel, the principal of Sacred Heart School. Thank you!

## Prayer for the Fourth Week of Advent

"Almighty, eternal, just, and merciful God, give us miserable ones the grace to do for You alone what we know you want us to do, and always to desire what pleases You. Inwardly cleansed, interiorly enlightened and inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit, may we be able to follow in the footsteps of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and by Your grace alone, may we make our way to You, Most High, Who live and rule in perfect Trinity and simple Unity, and are glorified God almighty, forever and ever. Amen."

~ from Advent and Christmas Wisdom from St. Francis of Assisi

## Solemnity of Mary Masses

Monday, January 1  
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God  
9:00 am  
7:00 pm



### Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. On December 30<sup>th</sup> the office will be open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The office will be opened from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm on December 30<sup>th</sup>. The office will be closed on December 31, January 1<sup>st</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Sacred Heart Youth Group

### GAP (God and Pizza) Program

GAP (God and Pizza) program for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders meets at 4:30 pm on Sundays at the Parish Center and for high school students at 7:00 pm. Teens interested in music ministry at the 6:00 pm Mass are invited to come to practices at 5:30 pm in the main Church on Sundays as well. For more information about Youth Ministry contact the parish office and ask for either Ivy Marrero or Fr. Tom. Information is updated and posted on our parish website regularly.

### Mom's Goup



We all have busy lives but consider our small group as a mini retreat to refresh, rest and receive graces that come from sharing scripture, prayers and friendship offered up to Him. We encourage discussion and reflection on Sunday's scriptures and provide a place to come together to feel connected to God and one another. Babies and children welcome to come with mom or grand mom. Future meetings Jan. 9 & 23, Feb. 13 & 27, Mar. 13 & 27, Apr. 10 & 24, May 8 & 22, June 12. For more info, contact the parish office or Cindy at 845-662-6768.

## Hear Our Prayers O Lord



### The Baptized

River Shea McKersie, Rupert Wolfgang Cochrane

### The Deceased

Nancy R. Cuomo, Firefighter Cory Iverson (CA)

### Military

We have placed our military roll honoring the men and women of our parish family currently serving our country in the Church's military shrine. If you would like to add someone to the roll, please call the parish office.

### The Sick

Rachael Snitofsky, Erica Jane Burns, Heiner Lakas, Barbara Stilo, Francine Stilo, Jennifer Kanzler Miller, Blossom Johnson, Talia Phelan, Lisa Shina, Pat Stanton, Mary Ferrigno, Melody Gerakaris, Dorothy Neuwirth, Stanley Englert, Teddy Bonner, Michael Koperski, Norma Diaz Perez, Michael, Marti Brannick, John Turner, Michael Reed, Lawrence Grosso, Michael Mele. Carol Licata, Christine Moore, Phyllis DiLucca, Kelsey Berger, Virginia DiLorenzo, Veronica Maria Donoghue, Rev. Terrance McCarthy, Gloria Montalvo

### *In Loving Remembrance*

The **Sanctuary Candle** for the month of **December** is in memory of Edward and Robert Coco. Lovingly requested by the Coco Family.

**Anyone wishing to memorialize the sanctuary candle, the flowers or bread and wine is asked to contact the parish office.**

### Adoration

At Sacred Heart we have two weekly opportunities to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition with Benediction will take place on Wednesday mornings from 8 am to 9 am followed by the morning Mass and on Fridays from 8 pm to 9 pm. Please note as well that on First Fridays of the month, All Night Adoration takes places from 8 pm Friday evening until 9 am Saturday morning



## TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

### Sacred Heart Designer Handbag Bingo Fundraiser



Friday, February 9, 2018

Inclement Weather Date February 16

No Ticket Refunds.

Please give or sell your ticket to someone else.

Sacred Heart School Gym  
26 Still Rd., Monroe, NY

Doors Open at 6:00, Bingo Starts at 7:00

Cost: \$40 per person which includes one bingo card set

Bring your Own Food and Beverages  
Door Prizes, Raffles, 50/50

Winners will receive a new designer handbag.  
Coach, Kate Spade, Anna for Anushka, Michael Kors, Dooney and Bourke, G.I.L.I., Vera Bradley

Reserve Your Table Today!

Cash or checks made payable to Sacred Heart Church.

Please include your name, phone number and a list of all guests at your table with your payment.

Must be 18 years of age to attend.

Contact Bernadette at

[bernadette.marasco@sacredheartchurch.org](mailto:bernadette.marasco@sacredheartchurch.org) or 845-238-5630

### Sacred Heart Basketball Tournament Fundraiser for Our Father's Kitchen

Admission: 5 non-perishable food items or \$5 per player  
\$20 if you bring your own team of five

The tournament will be held on Saturday, December 30  
in the in the Sacred Heart School gym

12 pm for grades 1-3

2 pm for grades 4-6

4 pm for grades 7-8

6 pm for all high school students

To sign up please call the Parish Office at 845-782-8510  
or email [tournament@sacredheartchurch.org](mailto:tournament@sacredheartchurch.org)

## Saint of the Week



St. John

Apostle, Evangelist  
December 27

The Apostle John, whom Jesus loved so much, was Zebedee's son, and brother of that James the Apostle beheaded by Herod after Our Lord's Passion. He wrote his Gospel last of all, at the request of the bishops of Asia, who were battling Cerinthus and other heretics, especially the Ebionites. These were beginning to teach that Christ had no existence previous to His existence in Mary. And so John felt compelled to assert clearly the divine origin of Christ.

In the fourteenth year of his rule, Domitian inaugurated the second persecution after Nero. John was banished to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the Apocalypse, a book on which Justin Martyr and Irenaeus later commented. In the reign of Nerva, after the death of Domitian and the abrogation of his decrees by the senate because of their excessive cruelty, John returned to Ephesus. There he stayed up to the time of Trajan, founding and guiding the various church-communities of Asia Minor. Spent by old age, he died and was buried at Ephesus in the sixty-eighth year after the Passion of Our Lord.

When the holy Evangelist John was living at Ephesus and was far advanced in years, his disciples would carry him into church. Being unable to give a lengthy sermon, at each gathering he was accustomed simply to repeat the words, "Children, love one another." His disciples and the brethren who were present, upon hearing these same words repeatedly, became impatient and asked, "Master, why do you always say the same thing?" John's reply was wholly in harmony with his heart: "Because it is the Lord's commandment; and if you did nothing more, it would suffice."

Sacred Heart Parish Outreach  
845.782.8510  
parishoutreach@gmail.com

**Our Father's Kitchen:** Sacred Heart Parish Outreach all began with Our Father's Kitchen at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, 151 Stage Rd, Monroe in 2009. We opened our doors to serve those not only in need of a hot, nutritious meal, but also for those who suffered from spiritual and emotional loneliness and isolation. Our program grew to transporting individuals and families to and from the dinners, with our Sacred Heart Parish Bus, and also included delivering hot meals to those unable to attend our dinners due to physical illness or lack of mobility. This program currently feeds 100+ people per week. It takes an average of 24 people, per week to facilitate this program and over 77 volunteer hours per meal every Wednesday. Phyllis Coffey, John Petrizzo, Maribeth Sarno, Nancy Seliga, Rich McGrail, Camille Lucani, Tracy Gregoire and Joe Simeone help supervise the program. John and Cathy O'Hare, Stephanie McKay, Mary LaPolla and Caron Lenihan collect bread and baked goods weekly from Shop Rite, Stop and Shop, Bagel boys and Panera.

**The Sonshine Boutique:** Began in 2009. Each week many volunteers sort, price and set up the Boutique that offers clothing and household items at very reasonable prices. This is a huge undertaking requiring several volunteers to come on Mondays from 10-1 for sorting and on Thursdays from 9-4, for setting up the Chapel Basement and then selling the items. Over 20 volunteers lead this program requiring 155 volunteer hours each week. The proceeds from the Boutique are a major source of funding for Outreach to those who need assistance. This year we said "good-bye" to Kathy Beeler who gave full time attention to the facilitation of the Boutique. Lisa Oser, has stepped up to guide the volunteers on a weekly basis.

**Our Mother's Cupboard:** Our Mother's Cupboard provides diapers, wipes, baby food, formula, furniture and gift baskets to mother's with babies in need. Under the direction of Susana Rodriguez and Camille Stack, many newborns through toddlers are well provided for every Thursday from 12-3.

**The Emergency Food Pantry:** Food has always been available to anyone in need at anytime. As the need became greater and greater, we decided to set aside one morning per week to pick up, set up and distribute nearly 2000 lbs. of food. This is no easy task and requires the help of over 20 volunteers each week. We average feeding 50+ families per week, over 1,000 individuals per month. Monica Haugh and Doug Rizzi supervise this program and Tom Waters, Mike O'Donnell and Jim Alfano pick up the Food Bank. The Summer Lunch Program and Backpack Snack program now fall under the umbrella of the Emergency Food Pantry.

**The Warming Station:** Began in 2015 providing overnight respite for those who are homeless on the weekends. Since November 2016 we increased our nights to seven per week from Nov 15<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Last year we were open 136 nights and averaged 5 people per night. This program requires a unique volunteer who is willing to be at the Chapel overnight from 8:45pm to 7am. The Meal Train has been established to deliver food for the guests every evening. So far over 95 volunteers have signed up! Joe Simeone coordinates this program.

**The Bereavement Group:** Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month for those suffering the loss of a loved one. This program began in 2013 and offers an understanding and compassionate place to discuss the difficulties of dealing with loss. Laura Horn facilitates this program.

**The Giving Tree:** Provides Christmas gifts for all those who come to us in need. Our parishioners of Sacred Heart, The Sacred Heart School, the Monroe - Woodbury school district, the Village of Harriman and many caring individuals generously provide gifts. This year Christmas was a little brighter for more than 375 children and 150 families! This program requires the service of over 30 volunteers.

**Volunteers:** ...make everything happen and without the support of Fr. Tom Byrnes we would not be able to perform these works of charity! At the risk of omitting anyone, I just want to **thank each and every person who contributes to the work that is done on behalf of Sacred Heart Parish Outreach.** The following pictures are meant to capture some of the work behind the scenes! Wishing you all a spirit of peace, love and **JOY** as we seek to do the will of Our Heavenly Father, I am sincerely yours, Betsy Johnston.

