

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 5 Ronald and Elena Galdieri Nettie and Eugene Tozzi
SUNDAY, 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 6 People of the Parish Charles Cook Maureen Collins Joseph Desmond Robert Kirby
MONDAY, 7:00 a.m. 12:05 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 7 The McCormick and Cassidy Families Gerard Reilly John Koopman
TUESDAY, 7:00 a.m. 12:05 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 8 – Immaculate Conception Cynthia Fovacci The Orsi and Ahrens Families John Frank Porter
WEDNESDAY, 7:00 a.m. 12:05 p.m.	DECEMBER 9 John Dalton Gerard M. Reilly
THURSDAY, 7:00 a.m. 12:05 p.m.	DECEMBER 10 Frank Dalbo Joseph Crowley
FRIDAY, 7:00 a.m. 12:05 p.m.	DECEMBER 11 Harry Shortmeir Joseph Crowley
SATURDAY, 8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 12 John and Kathleen Brosnan, and John, Jr. Claire M. Dunlap
SUNDAY, 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	DECEMBER 13 People of the Parish Frances (Tootsie) Tozzi John and Genevieve Ligenza John Misko Constance Lago

The Rosary is prayed every weekday 15 minutes before the 12:05 Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel, Cedar Knolls.

The Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is prayed every Monday immediately following the 12:05 p.m. Mass.

Perpetual Adoration is observed seven days-a-week, 24 hours daily at St. Margaret of Scotland in Morristown.

First Reading – *Baruch 5:1-9*

In today's first reading, the Jewish exiles in Babylon receive the best possible news. God, the God of justice, will lead the refugees back to their homes!

Second Reading– *Philippians 1:4-6,8-11*

In this excerpt from Paul's letter to the in Philippi, the Apostle urges that community to live lives worthy of the Kingdom of justice and peace which Christ will establish at his coming in glory.

Gospel – *Luke 3:1-6*

Today's Gospel passage echoes the sentiments of the first two readings: John the Baptizer announces that God is once more about to save the people. Therefore, they must recommit themselves to holiness.

Second Sunday of Advent

We invite you to prayerfully reflect on the readings for next Sunday, December 13, **Third Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45



SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT

Say: We light the first candle for Hope, and now we light the second candle, the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of Mary and Joseph's faith as they prepared for the birth of Jesus.

Read: Biblical prayer for the Advent Calendar for each day.

Immaculate Conception

Tuesday, December 8

A Holy Day of Obligation

Masses will be celebrated on Monday at 5:30 p.m. and on Tuesday at 7:00 a.m., 12:05 and 7:30 p.m.

Second Sunday of Advent



PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Pat and Bob Seely, Noelle Talarico, Lorraine McMahon, Judy Lynch, Romaine Rea, Agnes Hogan, Kathleen McCarthy Brennan, Tony Bersani, Mary Ascher, Rita Ventre, Helen Bitondo, Gladys Mageau, Becca Wishbow, Michael Garde, Joseph McGovern, Elsa McGlynn, Doris Lemieux, Patricia Barter-Varrichio, William Galligan, Doris Laurenti, Heidi Hertsgaard, Mary O'Connell, Janet Cloninger, Jerry Kwilos, Kathy Farrand, Robert Carduner, Sherry Rickely, Manuel and Delicia Calderon, Ariel Donnelly, Julie Ann Barlotta, Elaine Brady, Christy Lee Ascolese, Sabrina Sanchez, Jim Cavanaugh, Gabrielle Murtha, Jody Hartley, Doris Laurenti, Guy J. Palazzolo, Jane A. Mullins, Mary Breen, Elizabeth Gibson, Theresa O'Connell, Maria Svaglinac, Christopher Scully, Malcolm Sutherland Foggio, Charles Lieb McCloskey, Marie Valvano, Charlotte Resz, Linda Rosenberg, Sheila Hare, Thomas Greer, Albert J. Kelly, Jr., Monica Turner, David Monahan, Alice Slattery, Brittany Somol, Eugene R. Fennimore, Julia Sillo, Amy Villoresi Cooney, Kenneth Donohue, Susan, Jaime Trent, Rick Baiter, Kathy Heregthy, Cheryl Collins, Dominick Vacca, Kyle Noonan, Edward Soboll, Hilda Egan, Jennifer Vickroy, infant Isla Dell'Aquila, Paul Albanese, Brenda Burns, Vincent Hogan, Vincent Farley, Virginia Brennan, Jeanne Detsis, Kathy Wurst, Michael Coppola, John West, Louie Luzzi and Fr. Joe Casey

You are invited to call the Parish Office with the names of any loved ones who you would like included in the prayers for the good health of the sick and homebound.

Please notify us when our prayers for recovery have been answered, so we may remove the person from the list.



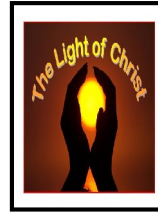
We welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism

Teaghan Francis and Addison Morab Carey
Twin Daughters of Ian and Colleen

Jackson Thomas Vitolo
Son of Frank and Shannon

Katherine Claire Hamilton
Daughter of Kevin and Sharon

Sophia Grace LeCroix
Daughter of Timothy and Margaret



THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SHINES AT ASSUMPTION

We believe that Jesus Christ breathes His Spirit on us so that we can strive to become a more perfect expression of the Good News in all aspects of everyday life.

THANKS (for) GIVING

I would like to thank all of you whose financial (\$5,913 to date) and food contributions helped to make Thanksgiving Day special for those in need. Special thanks to Assumption School, Religious Education, the Assumption Cub Scouts and Kirsten and Nancy Mayer, Deacon Mike Hanly and his wife Jeanne the food distributors and home basket 'delivery service' provided by Liz Wilkey and myself, those who worked at the parish food pantry and those who worked at the Interfaith Food Pantry. Blessings to you all!!
– *Claudia Nardi*

The Coronation Of The Blessed Virgin

Lovely Mary, Mary kind and sweet,
Merciful, a crescent at your feet,
Mary-heart delighted with your Son,
Queen of heaven endless and begun

Mary patient, diligent and mild,
Mother-love united with your Child,
Wear the crown of all felicity,
Gladness of the Holy Trinity

Crown of chastity and temperance,
Crown of clemency and continence,
Crown of light and everlasting day,
Kingdom crown which nothing can delay

Crown of stars whose shinings never cease,
Crown of love and never-ending peace,
Crown of innocence and joyfulness,
Mary crown of heaven, heaven-blessed

[Pavel Chichikov](#)

December 6, 2009

JOHN THE BAPTIST: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

The word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the Isaiah: "A voice of one crying in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. (Luke 3: 1-6)

John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way for the Lord's coming. He challenges us and his message might even make us uncomfortable if we have grown secure in the trappings of the holiday season instead of the true message of joy and love that Advent seeks to instill in our hearts and minds as we prepare the Lord's coming.

Here is a reflection I hope that you will enjoy.

He caused quite a commotion among the shoppers. Many dismissed him as an annoying nut, some found him an eccentric "hoot". He was dressed in a tattered flannel shirt and jeans. No one knew where he spent the night, but he was seen rummaging around the dumpsters for scraps of food from Orange Julius and MacDonald's. Every day he could be found by the beautifully lighted fountain near the mall's food court. Despite his ragged appearance and that slightly "off" look in his eyes, there was a kindness and sincerity about him that drew people to him.

He would ask them why they would spend so much money for Christmas, why they would allow themselves to become so obsessed and stressed out over this tinsel holiday. "We like our Christmas with a lot of sugar, don't we?" he would tease. But Christmas is about hope and love, he said - and that can be a struggle. Give gifts of kindness and compassion to each other. Seek forgiveness and reconciliation from family and friends who may be lost to you. Let the spirit of the Christ Child embrace every season of the year, not just December.

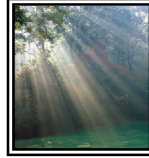
Those who listened would nod in agreement as he spoke - even as they tightened their grips on their shopping bags. Some were moved to quit shopping and go home to be with their families, others would go off and buy an extra toy or piece of clothing for charity; a few would even be moved to escape to a church or a chapel for quiet prayer.

Sometimes he would rail against the insipid music and the gaudy decorations. When the mall Santa would walk by, he would make fun of him, asking the embarrassed Santa pointed questions about the real Christmas story.

Soon, though, the store owners had had enough of his distractions. The mall managers had security escort him from the premises. He wasn't really hurting anyone, they realized. But he had to go, they said. He was ruining everyone's Christmas.

Prepare the Way means building the reign of God's love, justice, and peace. We begin to accomplish this when we prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.

In Christ's Peace,
Father John



**FROM THE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR
SPIRITUALITY**

Holiness is whole-ly loving. True religion is loving God with my whole soul and my whole mind and my whole body as a whole person. Soul, mind and body are a "mini-trinity" that is a unity, one person. It is only when I am one that I can love my neighbor properly, because I love them as myself. If myself is divided, so will be my love of others. If I love my soul and hate my body, then when I love you and embrace you, you will not feel loved at all. I am loving something unreal, a disembodied spirit inside of you that is good, that is God-like in spite of your "bad" body. There is no such thing. If I truly love you, I love *you*, whole and entire, just as you are.

Someone once said, "Holiness is *wholeness*." And so it is. No one is ever perfectly whole, but working with God toward wholeness is the grand adventure of life. It is spending your life on the right thing; it is the direction in which all of your energy should be channeled, and it is achieved not by pursuing wholeness merely on your own strength but by entering into God's plan for you as you walk in the footsteps of Jesus. It is believing that, yes, God is making all things new. He has destroyed sin and death; he is healing the division within you.

Love, Fr. Dennis

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND FOR
HOLY TRINITY IN PASSAIC**

Greetings and Blessings!

On behalf of our Parish Family of Holy Trinity Church in Passaic, I want to sincerely thank Rev. Msgr. John Hart and all of you for your prayers and contributions this past year. I look around and I see tremendous accomplishments.

Your yearly collection helps us greatly. We are able to feed the poor, lend a hand to the young teenager who finds herself pregnant and scared, give support to the mother who worries about her drug-addicted son, help the married spouse who has a terminal illness and no money to pay the bills. Your contribution also helps support our Youth Program, where many of these young kids are involved in gangs and come from broken families. Your generosity has truly touched many lives in our community. And our community keeps on growing - we are still the number one parish in the diocese with the most baptisms. Last year we had 723 baptisms and this year alone we have baptized 602 children so far!!

I thank you for your generosity and care but most of all I thank you for your support in prayer. As a parish community of Holy Trinity, we have been blessed with your friendship and love.

May you all have a blessed Christmas

- Fr. Antonio

Second Sunday of Advent

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



PREPARE THE WAY: In ancient times when a monarch was to visit a region of his kingdom, he would send ahead a herald to prepare the way. The herald's responsibility was to prepare the roads and make sure that everyone knew the king was coming.

Adults: How can I become a better herald for Christ, one who announces his coming?

Children: What can I do to better prepare for the celebration of Christmas, the birth of Jesus?

A Family Perspective: During the season of Advent, we choose to add many activities to our family's schedule to prepare for our celebration of Christmas. John the Baptist reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord's coming and our celebration of Christmas. Your family might choose to seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation on an individual basis. Please take a copy of the schedule available at the doors of the Church.

Read together today's Gospel, Luke 3:1-6. Talk about how John the Baptist called upon the people to prepare the way of the Lord through repentance. Together as a family, prepare a simple reconciliation service in preparation for Christmas. Gather in a prayerful space, perhaps around the family Advent wreath. Read again from today's Gospel, Luke 3:1-6. Invite each family member to pray silently, asking God to forgive his or her sins. Pray together the Act of Contrition. Then celebrate God's forgiveness by sharing the sign of peace with one another.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD: Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's word this week.

In the home: Gather as a family to pray for openness and joy to better celebrate the coming of Jesus.

In the workplace or in school: Share with your friends what you are doing to prepare for Christmas. Consider sharing acts of kindness rather than material gifts.

In the community: Get involved in a project to help families and children in need during this special time.



www.webelieveweb.com Web Watch. Find prayers and other resources for celebrating Advent.

FACILITATORS NEEDED FOR SERVICE OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN:

On most weekends throughout the year, Service of the Word for Children is presented at the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturdays, then again at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. After the opening prayer, children in PreK4-5th grade are invited in front of the altar for a blessing and are then led into the community room by two adults who present them with the Gospel and the psalm of the day in child-friendly language, engage them in conversation, lead them in prayer, and then direct them back to their parents following the Prayers of the Faithful. In order to maintain and continue this faith-filled experience, more adult facilitators are needed. Please consider volunteering for as little as one weekend per month. Contact Linda Macios at Linda.Macios@assumptionparish.org.



CHILDREN'S STORIES FOR FAMILY CONVERSATIONS ABOUT FAITH AND GOD

Consider adding one of these to your list of gifts to give or to receive:

- Demi, *The Empty Pot*. New York, NY, (Henry Holt and Company, Inc.: 1990). Thoughtfulness, hard work, and honesty are portrayed as virtues in this competition. What is prized becomes the source of discussion and of what one values. Demi's art always has a touch of gold.
- Fox, Mem, *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*. Brooklyn, NY and LaJolla, CA, (Kane/Miller Book Publishers: 1985). What is used to help one remember also deepens the relationship between the generations. The artwork of Julie Vivas captures the warmth and intimacy of the story.
- Lopez, Barry, *Crow and Weasel*. San Francisco, CA, (North Point Press: 1990). It's a quest from boyhood to manhood, from adolescence to maturity and it encounters all the questions that confront us on the journey and offers answers to what's most important in life.

(More, next week)

December 6, 2009

PROMOTE PEACE THIS ADVENT: Christ said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (Jn 14:27). Peace. That little word holds the key to a better world. Something so important should become part of who we are, of how we think, act, love. Yet, do we understand the many aspects of peace? One important aspect of Catholic social teaching is the promotion of peace. Catholic teaching promotes peace as a positive, action-oriented concept. In the words of Pope John Paul II: "Peace is not just the absence of war. It involves mutual respect and confidence between peoples and nations. It involves collaboration and binding agreements." There is a close relationship in Catholic teaching between peace and justice. Peace is the fruit of justice, and is dependent upon right order among human beings. During the four weeks of Advent, take the time to explore peace for yourself and with your children.
Week 1: Becoming Aware. Start by brainstorming all the peace phrases you can think of.
Week 2: Creating Definitions. Try to create a definition of peace as a family.
Week 3: Peacemakers Everywhere. Research peacemakers in the Church and the world.
Week 4: Becoming Peacemakers. Christmas is close, the birthday of the greatest peacemaker of all! Follow Jesus and help make peace every day.



GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Special thanks to our new volunteers – Tim Murphy, Linda O'Connor, RN, Linda Riedell and Arlene Yuliano. The December coordinator is Pat Moore (973-267-5304). Please remember to call in your hours – Thanks! Pamphlets describing our ministry are available at the doors of the church.

FROZEN DINNERS FOR THE WORKING POOR

Hunger is a year-round problem, but especially traumatic during the holidays. Please think of helping the working poor by making a nourishing meal. Frozen Dinner trays will be available after Mass next weekend December 11 and 12 at any entrance of the church or Parish Center. We will include some easy, nutritious recipes to help you; but you may be creative by using your own holiday recipe. Making a meal would make a difference for deserving families who rely on the Father English Center when their food budgets are inadequate after paying their rent, utilities, etc. Please return the FROZEN entrée to the Assumption parking lot on Saturday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m. SHARP! Assumption's Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will deliver them to Paterson. Thank you for your help.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

It's that time of year again, and Assumption's Youth Ministry would like to invite you to attend the annual "Breakfast with Santa" this Sunday, December 6. A delicious pancake and sausage breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the school cafeteria. Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves will also be there to take pictures with the kids and give out Christmas treats!! The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 for a family. Tickets can be purchased at the door. We hope to see you there!



NEW JERSEY RIGHT TO LIFE RESPECT LIFE RAFFLE

The winning raffle number was 44712, purchased by Josephine DiDomenico of Landisville, New Jersey. We thank all who make this fundraiser a great success. Morris County grossed about \$36,800 from churches, good for second place just behind Middlesex with Monmouth third, Bergen a close fourth. We had two different churches break 2,000 this year, Notre Dame Mount Carmel in Cedar Knolls with \$2,829, and Resurrection in Randolph with \$2,080. Morris County Right to Life will receive 30 percent of net proceeds and 13 parishes so far have applied for a 10 percent rebate to their parish Right to Life group. God Bless you all. We're bringing New Jersey Back to Life!!

PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR GIVING TREE GIFTS. THIS IS THE LAST WEEKEND!!

Come in and pray today – beat the Christmas rush!!

Second Sunday of Advent

FROM HOUSES TO HOMES

Dear Assumption,
Thank you very much for the donation of \$2,850 from Assumption parishioners to From Houses to Homes from the October 30 collection. The funds will be used to help those in need in Guatemala.

Thank you also for allowing Roberto Perez the opportunity to sell his bracelets and other items after the Masses on November 8. Many items were purchased and he now has enough money to begin construction of his home in San Antonio, Guatemala.

Please take a moment to visit our website at www.fromhousestohomes.org to see what we have accomplished since we began operations in January 2005.

Of course, none of this would be possible if it weren't for people like you. The poor of Guatemala will live a better life thanks to your generosity.

— Joe Collins

Confessions During Advent

Saturday, December 5 – 4:15 to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 7 – 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 12 – 4:15 to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 14 – 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19 – 4:15 to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 21 – 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

\$\$\$\$Financial Blessings\$\$\$\$

The collection for November 29 totaled \$16,427. Last year's totaled \$17,642. The collection for Catholic Home Missions totaled 3,421. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

NOW MORE THAN EVER



Bishop's Annual Appeal
Diocese of Paterson

Please take advantage of the remaining weeks of 2009 to make a year-end gift to our Bishop's Annual Appeal. We need the support of every parishioner to strengthen the vital ministries and programs that help so many people throughout Morris, Passaic and Sussex County. In addition, all parishes receive a 50% rebate of all funds that are received over their parish goal, so your generous response helps both our Diocese and our Parish. Thank you for your support!

PILGRIMAGE TO OBERAMMERGAU AND PASSION PLAY IN GERMANY SPRING 2010



Father John will serve as a spiritual escort for an eleven-day pilgrimage to Oberammergau, Germany for the historic Passion Play conducted there every ten years. The group will be departing on May 29 and returning on June 8, 2010. In addition to Germany, the trip will include the countries of Switzerland, Austria, and Liechtenstein with visits to Heidelberg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Munich and Garmisch. A cruise down the Rhine River is also planned. Space is limited and reservations must be made early. For information about this exciting pilgrimage and complete itinerary, please contact Fr. John or stop in the Parish Office to pick-up a brochure. The cost of the pilgrimage, including transportation to and from the airport and airfare is \$4,335 double occupancy plus \$795 for single supplement.

Mass Attendance for November 28 and 29

5:30 p.m.	344
7:00 a.m.	111
8:30 a.m.	202
10:00 a.m.	577
12:15 p.m.	324
5:30 p.m.	<u>383</u>
-	
TOTAL	1,941

Please Consider Remembering
Assumption in Your Will

December 6, 2009

Poems from the Pew, From a Child's View

At that time God's word came to John in the desert.
He went into all the countryside around the Jordan River.
There he preached that people should be baptized and turn away from their sins.
Luke 3: 3

John the Baptist

Some say that John the Baptist was a man unique and strange,
but I know John the Baptist had a message about change.
John lived a hermit's life inside a desert hot and bare,
and wore a cloak so coarse and rough, sewn from camel's hair.

He didn't care about most things like riches, wealth, or money;
and for his meals he ate raw locusts and drank wild honey.
And though he had some habits that we all might think quite odd,
John preached about preparing for the coming of our God.

"Make every pathway straight," he said. "Let valleys be filled in.
Change your lives right now so you can turn away from sin!
If you have two coats," he said, "please give one to the poor.
You shouldn't store up riches that you don't need anymore."

"For someone's coming down the path who's greater than us all,
and we must clear the way so we can hear Him when He calls."
Yes, John the Baptist was a man whose words were pure and true.
And through these words I've learned a thing or two that I must do.

I'll share my things with others, and turn away from sin.
I'll clear bad feelings from my heart so Jesus can come in.
But of all the things that John did, there's one thing I *won't* do. . .
I'll *never* eat a bug for lunch, I ask you now – *would you???*

Liz Wilkey

