

# Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, December 23 - 4:00pm**

Mr. & Mrs. George Brown - requested by the family

**Sunday, December 24**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**7:00am**

Bishop Libasci & priests of the Diocese - requested by Irene de Repentigny

**10:30am**

Deceased friars of the Province of the Immaculate Conception

**Sunday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve**

**4:00pm**

The deceased members of the Sullivan family

**Midnight**

Deceased members of the Demers & Lavigne families - requested by Pauline & Maurice Lavigne



**Monday, December 25**

**The Nativity Of The Lord**

**9:00am**

Robert Thibodeau - requested by his parents

**Tuesday, December 26 - 8:30am**

Maurice Vachon - requested by Lee & Sue Forest and family

**Wednesday, December 27**

- NO MASS -

**Thursday, December 28 - 8:30am**

Peggy McCall, anniversary of death - requested by the family

**Friday, December 29 - 8:30pm**

Bert Gagnon, anniversary of death - requested by his family

**Saturday, December 30 - 4:00pm**

Grace Bucchino, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death - requested by her family

FOR A CHILD HAS BEEN BORN FOR US.



A SON GIVEN FOR US.  
I S A I A H 4:5

**Sunday, December 31**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**7:00am**

Deceased members of the Goulet & Vallee families - requested by Dan & Deb Goulet

**10:30am**

Robert Thibodeau - requested by his Mom & Dad

**Monday, January 1**

**Mary, Holy Mother of God**

**9:00am**

George Young - requested by the Donohue family

Ministry schedules for January are available online or in the back of the church.



Please remember in your prayers **Marcel Laroche and Doris Rajotte** who were called to their eternal rest and the glory of the Resurrection promised by the Lord. May the Holy Spirit bring peace and comfort to their loved ones.

Advent is a season of "Lessons and Carols." We take a little extra time to reflect on the important lessons of life, to give thanks to God for what gifts we have been blessed with, and to strive to become better people as the New Year awaits us. We also sing songs of hope and joy as we realize how much we are loved by our God who sent His son into our world to save us and show us how to live. So in the spirit of advent "storytelling," I am going to share six little stories for your reflection:



- 1) Once all villages decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That's faith.
- 2) When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That's trust.
- 3) Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That's hope.
- 4) We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's confidence.
- 5) We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That's love.
- 6) On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I'm not 80 years old; I'm sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That's attitude.

Have a happy fourth Sunday of Advent, as we await the birth of our Savior in one week, and live your life like the six little stories!

~ Fr. John



**St. Theresa of Lisieux Adoration Chapel**

Daily Hours: 7am-7pm

**Open Hours:**

**Mondays: 9am**

**Thursdays: 3pm & 4pm**

**Saturdays: 12pm**

**Come and spend an hour with Jesus this Christmas season.**

Please call Irene de Repentigny, Chapel Coordinator at 622-7775 for more information.

**STEWARDSHIP: FAITHFUL & GENEROUS:**

**December 17 & 18, 2017**

**Weekend Offertory**

Envelopes \$2,858.92

Loose \$1,157.88

Electronic Offering \$ 757.00

**Total Offertory: \$4,773.80**

**General Parish Fund**

Candles: \$80.00

Adoration Chapel: \$53.00

**Grand Annual Christmas Gift To My Parish: \$1,322.00**

**Outreach Fund**

St. Anthony Bread for the Poor: \$100.34

Food Pantry: \$10.00

*Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and our Outreach Programs.*

"Let us free Christmas from the worldliness that has taken it hostage! The true spirit of Christmas is the beauty of being loved by God."

~ Pope Francis

**PARISH LEADERSHIP**

**PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

St. Anthony Food Pantry	
Colleen Hayward	935-9949
My Brother's Keeper Sleeping Bags	
Rosemary McNair	647-2797
Shoes For Kids/General Outreach	
Lisa Siraco	622-5445
St. Anne's Closet (clothing for children)	
Karen McAndrew	464-0331
Parish Elderly Ministry	
Diane Steele	669-8825

**PARISH MINISTRIES**

Adoration Chapel	
Irene de Repentigny	622-7775
Boy/Cub Scouts	
Ron St. Cyr	622-8182
Parish Prayer Line	
Gemma Houde	668-3993
Young Adult Faith Formation/Confirmation	
Dan & Debbie Goulet (Year 1)	623-5354
Sr. Marjorie Lupien (Year 2)	315-7623
Funeral Ministry	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Liturgical Ministers (Eucharist Lectors, Altar Servers)	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Memorial Meals	
Gloria Pilotte	623-8173
Terry Sylvain	669-2582
Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Sr. Anne & Sr. Joan	622-7138
Religious Education (Gr. 1-7)	
Martha & Steve Donohue	627-4868
RCIA	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Secular Franciscan Order	
Nick Cort	224-4605
Social Committee	
Donna Guertin	669-5232
Spirits Alive!	
Sr. Anne & Sr. Joan	622-7138
Youth Group	
Ellen Donohue	867-8881

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS**

Baptism, Marriage, Sacrament of the Sick	
Fr. John Bucchino, ofm	622-5445

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Music Director & Organist, Adult Choir and Cantors:	
James Butka	540-7638

*Glory to God  
in the highest  
and on earth peace.  
Luke 2:14*

May the blessings of the Season bring you and your family the gentle peace of God's love throughout the New Year.



**Calendar of Events**

**Sunday, December 24**

\* NO Religious Ed classes

**Monday, December 25**

\* Office Closed

\* NO Spirits Alive!,

\* NO Boy Scouts

**Tuesday, December 26**

\* Office Closed

\* Devotion to St. Anthony following Mass

**Wednesday, December 27**

\* St. Anne's Closet, closed today

\* Food Pantry, 1-3pm Last Names Q-Z

\* Marian Prayer Cenacle, 7pm, adoration chapel

**Thursday, December 28**

\* Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9:15am, OLOM

\* Cub Scouts, 6pm, hall

**Sunday, December 31**

\* NO Religious Ed classes

**300 Club Week 6:**



#30 Tim Oczykowski;  
#62 Lorraine Turcotte;  
#134 Barbara Cody;  
#155 Ronald Paul and  
#307 Denise Buxton

**Congratulations!**

Please see one of the captains to get your lucky number!!


Captains: Lisa (in the parish office) 622-5445, Doris Cote 624-1013; Gloria Pilotte 623-8173, Terry Sylvain 669-2582.

Let us pray for these special intentions:



For all our parishioners that are home-bound and in nursing homes; for all our parishioners, family and friends that are struggling with illness or recovering from surgeries; and for Virginia Clark, Robert Pelkey, Patrick Myrdhal, Maurice Allard, Jeanne Kaufman, Lucille Bradley, Joe Bennett, Larry Green, Paul Cody, Jackie Theodorou, Judy W.; Jeannine Bouchard, Paul Allard, Richard Tanguay, RFG, Sophia Rimmer, Acilda Dachowski, Chad Cerillo, Roger Boisvert, Jack Provost, Arnold Wright, Pat Begin, Janice Beaudin, John Moro, Roger Mustone, Richard Joyce, Joan Bick, Norma Lemire, Rita Marshall, Claire Dachowski and Mary Sylvain.

**Outreach Ministry**



Homeless Ministry: The weather has finally changed to winter and it's cold! We are in need of gently used winter jackets for men, especially sizes L, XL and XXL. (St. Anne's Closet does NOT need coats) If you have a winter jacket (no dress/wool coats please) that you no longer use, please consider donating it for our homeless. Jackets may be left in the back of the church or dropped off at the parish office M-F, 9am-5pm. We are also accepting winter boots, men's sizes 10 and up. Thank you!!

Catholic calendars are available in the back of the church. Limited quantity, so please, just one per family. Thank you.

**The Greatest Gift**

Christmas is coming! So much time has been spent in the past weeks thinking about gifts, where to find just the right presents for all the people on our list. Nothing but the best for those we love. And if we're honest, we've spent a few hours thinking about the presents we'll receive.

Today's Advent message makes even the best gift seem a little shabby. In accepting her role as the mother of Jesus, Mary gave everything to God. She gave up her reputation, her "social acceptance" and the ability to "choose her own path". She willingly sacrificed her will, her life, her future and in doing so brought God's greatest gift to us, His son Jesus. As Christmas day fast approaches, may Mary's gift teach us the real meaning of Christmas, giving to God in celebration of the gifts He's given us.

**CAFÉ ALPHA**

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the basics of our Christian Faith. The CAFÉ ALPHA will be held at the Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, NH in the Robert Frost room, Thursdays, January 11 through March 1st at 6:30pm, and facilitated by Peter Carpentier from Immaculate Conception Church in Nashua, NH. There are no fees but participants may purchase dinner from a special pub menu developed for the ALPHA group. The course consists of video presentations concerning the person of Jesus, followed by group discussion. Space is limited, please call the Parish Office at 603-888-0321 to register.