



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 15 - 4:00pm

Pearl Lemire, birthday remembrance - requested by Tracey, Stuart & Norma

Sunday, December 16 Third Sunday of Advent

7:00am

Stephen Siraco, anniversary of death - requested by Lisa & Michael

10:30am

Robert & Lucienne Jobin - requested by Gloria & Maurice Pilotte

Monday, December 17 - 8:30am

Marcel Larochelle, anniversary of death - requested by his wife

Tuesday, December 18 - 8:30am

Bertrand Gagnon, 7th anniversary of death - requested by his wife

Wednesday, December 19

NO MASS

Thursday, December 20 - 8:30am

Sumner Menken - requested by his wife and sons

Friday, December 21 - 8:30am

The deceased members of the Sylvain family - requested by Leo & Terry Sylvain

Saturday, December 22 - 4:00pm

Al & Helen Staar - requested by Rose Staar

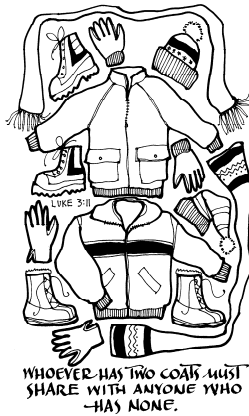
Sunday, December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00am

Gerald Demers - requested by Lisa & Michael Siraco

10:30am

Ginny & Tanny George and John Valliere



Rejoice! This word captures the feeling that is building up inside of each of us as we anticipate the coming of Christ at Christmas. During this season of gift-giving, we recognize that the birth of Christ is the most wondrous gift that God has given to us. It expresses God's great love for us and His promise to set us free from all that binds us up inside. I was reflecting on today's 2nd reading in which St. Paul encourages the Philippians to "Rejoice in the Lord always!" That is because the Lord is near. Because of God's nearness, St. Paul tells us to have no anxiety, so that the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Wow! Who can top this gift: "The peace of God?" I am always amused by the story of the young priest who ran into the pastor's office to report that Jesus has appeared in their church, and is walking down the aisle. In a state of panic, he asks the older priest: "What should we do?" Just as anxious as his younger colleague, the pastor responds: "For God's sake father, look busy, look busy!" We all know from our experience that Advent & Christmas can either be times of great business and anxiousness or great peace. It really is up to us to choose which attitude we embrace for this time of the year. So many of us get caught up in the culture's spirit of extreme business: e.g., shopping till we fall; working extra to make extra; being involved in so much holiday activity that we exhaust ourselves unnecessarily. Wouldn't it be great for our hearts and minds if we followed St. Paul's direction and made extra time for prayer and reflection; thanking God for His many gifts, and rejoicing in His love for us? St. Francis of Assisi was so in tune with the true meaning of the Nativity, that he spent precious time in prayer, quiet, fasting and charitable works during Advent. You probably already know that Francis created the original crèche. That is, he made a live Nativity scene so that the people could enjoy pondering the mystery of God becoming a human baby. He also wanted to give a gift to poor people who were sometimes not allowed to come too close to the altar in the cathedral to attend Mass. That was reserved for the wealthy people only. So may you have a holy, peaceful, and relaxing Advent and Christmas. Christ wants to share more of His gifts with you. ~ Fr. John



"Loving God means serving our neighbor without reserve, and trying to forgive without limits." ~ Pope Francis

Christmas & Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass Schedules

Monday, December 24th: 4pm & Midnight

Tuesday, December 25th: 9am

Monday, December 31st, 6pm

Tuesday, January 1st, 9am



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, Maurice Allard, Joe Bennett, Larry Green, Jackie Theodorou, Paul Allard, Richard Tanguay, RFG, Acilda Dachowski, Roger Mustone, Richard Joyce, Joan Bick, Norma Lemire, Rita Marshall, Claire Dachowski, Fr. Joe Gurdak, Mary Sylvain, Stephen P. Gilmartin, Bob & Linda Tetreault, Arthur Proulx, Aiden Weeds, Ginny Gallien, Linda Tajieux, Laura Jankowski, Kathy Klamm, Roland Dufour, Corrine Holebrook, Harry Mein, Shirley Gazda, Maurice Lavigne, Jean Levasseur and Noël Rinaldi.

The Giving Tree is up in the back of the church. Ornaments have suggestions for gift cards, warm goods, etc. to be used in our Outreach ministry. Please feel free to take an ornament and return it before Christmas. Items may be left in the back of the church. Gift cards should be placed in the collection basket.



STEWARDSHIP: FAITHFUL & GENEROUS:

December 8 & 9, 2018

Weekend Offertory

Envelopes \$3,314.18

Loose \$ 807.26

Electronic Offering \$ 615.00

Total Offertory: \$4,736.44

Retired Religious: \$1,571.18

General Parish Fund

Candles: \$55.00

Adoration Chapel: \$59.00

Outreach Fund

St. Anthony Bread for the Poor: \$87.22

Food Pantry: \$190.00

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

PARISH LEADERSHIP

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

- St. Anthony Food Pantry
Colleen Hayward 289-5276
- 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
- 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 622-5445
- Religious Education (Gr. K-8)
Martha & Steve Donohue 627-4868
- RCIA
Sr. Marjorie Lupien 622-5445
- Secular Franciscan Order
Nick Cort 224-4605
- Social Committee
Donna Guertin 669-5232
- 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



Sunday, December 16

* Religious Ed classes K-8, 9am, hall

Monday, December 17

* My Brother's Keeper, 9am-Noon

* Boy Scouts, 6:30pm

Tuesday, December 18

* **Parish Office Closed today**

* Devotion to St. Anthony following Mass

Wednesday, December 19

* St. Anne's Closet, closed today

* Food Pantry, 1-3pm, Last names K-P

* Marian Prayer Cenacle, 7pm, chapel

Thursday, December 20

* Prayer Shawl ministry, 10am, Mercy House

* Cub Scouts, 6:30pm, hall

Sunday, December 23

* NO Religious Ed classes today



Calling all Angels & Shepherds!

Children ages 6 and up are invited to be part of our Christmas Eve 4pm Mass procession as an angel or shepherd. Please call Martha Donohue at 627-4868 if you would like your child to participate.



Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



St. Theresa of Lisieux Adoration Chapel

Open Daily: 7am-7pm

Open Hours:

Sundays: 7am & 2pm

Fridays: 5pm

Saturdays: 11am & 12pm

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

What better way to prepare for Christmas than making time for Adoration this Advent! Substitutes Needed!!

If you can't commit to a permanent hour, please consider giving your name as a substitute to cover an adorer when they go on vacation, are sick or have an appointment. Can you spare one hour for Jesus? Please call Irene for details.

Every year Brookside Church hosts a Living Nativity in Stark Park complete with live animals from Miles Smith Farm and an awesome cast of volunteers for a live sharing of the Christmas Story complete with some warmth and hot cocoa! It will finish with the singing of traditional Christmas Carols.

The Living Nativity and Caroling will take place in Stark Park on **Sunday, December 16th at 3:00 p.m. in collaboration with Friends of Stark Park.**

Franciscan Mission Service Are you eager to follow the example of St. Francis and St. Clare and serve alongside the economically poor in our society? Do you yearn to learn about living simply, intentional community, and Franciscan spirituality? Consider joining Franciscan Mission Service's Overseas Lay Mission Program or DC Service Corps Program. FMS is an organization that rejoices in the diverse experiences of lay people (21 or older) willing to encounter Christ in the margins! For more information call: 202-832-1762 or visit franciscanmissionservice.org

300 Club - Week 13 Winners



- #2 Pat Barassi
- #68 Adeleine Morello
- #85 Pat Barassi
- #180 Paul Perry
- #261 Pauline Boudreau

Congratulations!

2019 Catholic Calendars

Thanks to **Connor Healy Funeral Home**, we once again have free 2019 Catholic calendars available. The calendars list all the holy days, feast days and highlight lent/advent. We have a limited amount, so, please, just one calendar per household.

The calendars are available on the table in the back of the church.

When **Catholic Charities New Hampshire** staff visited your parish this past spring, our promise was to regularly update you on the profound impact of your support around our Annual Appeal. We're honored to share that thanks to your generosity; so far this year, you have empowered and brought hope to the lives of more than **105,900 children, teens, adults and elderly** across New Hampshire. They are the impoverished, families on the brink of homelessness, the hopeless struggling with devastating mental health conditions and the elderly seeking to maintain independence. Visit www.cc-nh.org/impact to see more details on the lives you're touching. We've collected \$5,096 towards our parish goal of \$8,000.00.