

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 16 - 4:00pm

The deceased members of the Beaudin & Daneault families - requested by Roger & Janice Beaudin

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

7:00am

Stephen Siraco, 1st anniversary of death - requested by Lisa & Michael Siraco

10:30am

Robert & Lucienne Jobin - requested by Gloria & Maurice Pilotte

Monday, December 18 - 8:30am

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

Tuesday, December 19 - 8:30am

Summer Menken - requested by his wife & sons

Wednesday, December 20

- NO MASS -

Thursday, December 21 - 8:30am

Andy Martel, anniversary of death - requested by Mary Sullivan

Friday, December 22 - 8:30pm

Eileen Black, anniversary of death - requested by Don and Priscilla Bournival

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

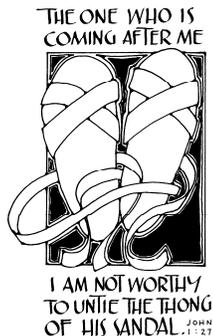
Midnight

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

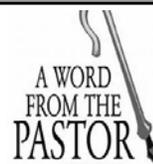
Monday, December 25 The Nativity Of The Lord

9:00am

Robert Thibodeau - requested by his parents



“Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Jesus Christ!” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).



Christmas is two weeks away, and so the church “wakes us up” even more by giving us Gaudete Sunday, which is the Latin word for rejoicing! As I think about putting myself in a joyful spirit, I feel that I have already arrived there! And it is because of you, my dear parishioners that I feel this way. For over these past weeks and months, so many of you give cause to rejoice:

-those who attend mass so faithfully and devoutly to pray for the needs of others; those who serve at the food pantry; those who pray at the Adoration Chapel for the many requests made; those who work at the Fall Festival that allows our parish to purchase a new organ; those who sing in the choir to help provide beautiful liturgies; those on our leadership councils who provide guidance and direction to keep our parish afloat; those who provide Memorial Meals to comfort those who have lost a loved one; those who are cantors, lectors, servers, Eucharistic ministers, greeters, ushers and counters; those who visit the sick and homebound; those who provide religious education for our children and the RCIA; those who work and pray in the “Spirits Alive” and in “Prayer Shawl” ministries; those who work with our youth and in social ministries; those in St. Anne’s closet who help poor children; all volunteers that help clean the church; those who serve the poor in “My Brother’s Keeper;” and the parish staff who help organize the day-to-day operations. I also wish to extend deep gratitude for those community groups whose generosity and support do so much to assist us: The Knights of Columbus (our Lady of Cedars council 2560); the Boy Scouts (troop 106) and Cub Scouts; and the Secular Franciscans. All of you individuals and groups are the reason we can say to Jesus: *“Yes Lord, we are rejoicing. For we believe you live among us every day here at this place of holiness and loving service. Continue to bless us with your love and grace.”* But if we pay closer attention to what St. Paul says in today’s 2nd reading, *“Pray without ceasing, and in all circumstances give thanks!”*, we can be sure that we are really maturing in our faith as Christ’s disciples! Can we also give thanks when we get unwanted headaches from daily stress? Can we give thanks when the kids are crying, stuff in the house gets lost and that favorite vase gets broken? Can we give thanks when my sibling misunderstands my words and becomes distant from me? Can we give thanks when that driver ahead of me is crawling in traffic? You see, these are the everyday events in life that test us and give us grief. But the true disciples of Jesus knows that God is with them in all circumstances, so can even give praise in these trying moments! So Gaudete: Let us rejoice at all times in the name of our Lord!

~ Fr. John



Advent Lessons & Carols

Tuesday, December 19th, 6:30-7:30pm

Join us for a peaceful and beautiful hour of prayer, using scripture and hymns from the advent season to help us prepare our hearts for the coming of our savior!

Exciting news! The new organ was installed just in time for Christmas! It’s not fully paid for yet, but, we had enough to purchase it and have it ready for Christmas. After Christmas, we will have more information and details, but, for now, enjoy the music. Be sure to come on Tuesday night for the Lessons & Carols. We are grateful for the donations we have received to date.

STEWARDSHIP: FAITHFUL & GENEROUS:

December 9 & 10, 2017

Weekend Offertory

Envelopes \$2,572.34
Loose \$ 725.00
Electronic Offering \$ 510.00
Total Offertory: \$3,807.34

General Parish Fund

Candles: \$93.00
Adoration Chapel: \$23.00
Organ Donation: \$1,000.00

Retired Religious Fund: \$1,654.00

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.

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

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 17

* Religious Ed grades 1-7, 9am, hall

Monday, December 18

* My Brother's Keeper, 9am-Noon, hall

* Spirits Alive!, 3:30pm, OLOM house

* Boy Scouts, 6:30pm, hall

Tuesday, December 19

* Devotion to St. Anthony following Mass

* Lessons & Carols, 6:30pm, church

Wednesday, December 20

* St. Anne's Closet, closed today

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

* Marian Prayer Cenacle, 7pm, adoration chapel

* SELA Service, 7pm, church

Thursday, December 21

* Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9:15am, OLOM

* Cub Scouts, 6pm, hall

Sunday, December 24

* NO Religious Ed classes

"I encourage all of you to live the joy of your mission by witnessing to the Gospel wherever you are called to live and work." ~ Pope Francis

Envelopes to donate towards the Christmas flowers in memory or honor of a loved one(s) are available in the back of the church.



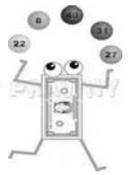
300 Club Week 5:

#38 Rana Zoma; #112 Carol Gentes; #183 Jane McCoy; #202 Arthur DesMeules and #319 Claudette & Richard Myers

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,



St. Theresa of Lisieux Adoration Chapel

Daily Hours: 7am-7pm

Open Hours:

Mondays: 9am

Thursdays: 3pm & 4pm

Saturdays: 12pm



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

CHRISTMAS HELP NEEDED! We need help covering the Chapel Christmas Day. **Come and spend an hour with Jesus and celebrate His Birthday.** Hours in need of coverage: **9am, 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm and 5pm**



Let us pray for these special intentions: For all our parishioners that are homebound 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, Marcel Larochele, 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, Mary Sylvain and Doris Rajotte

The Giving Tree is up in the back of the church. Ornaments include: gift cards (\$5/\$10) to fast food restaurants to use in our homeless ministry; Gas cards (\$10); Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6), children's new underwear & socks for St. Anne's closet and Shoes for Kids ministry; Warm socks, gloves, hats and hand warmers for our homeless ministry. Pick your ornament and return to the church anytime from now until Christmas. A box will be in the back to collect items; gift cards may be placed in the collection basket. Thank you for remembering others during this Advent/Christmas season.



Calling all angels & shepherds!

Please call Martha Donohue at (627-4868) if your child would like to participate

in the Christmas Eve procession (Dec. 24th, 4pm) as an angel or a shepherd. Children will gather in the church hall at 3:15pm to prepare.

Children's Christmas Party

We had a wonderful day last Saturday at the Children's Christmas party. 112 children from our parish and clients at St. Anne's closet came together to enjoy games, crafts, lunch, visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus and help Fr. John reenact the story of Christmas. It ended with a little snow falling to really put everyone in the Christmas spirit! Thank you to our Youth Group who did a great job the night before decorating the hall and wrapping gifts and also hosting the day on Saturday. Thank you also to all the adult Elves who helped!



Clarification on Christmas Masses for 2017

Bishop Libasci has clarified the Mass obligations for the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas. We **ARE** expected to honor our Mass obligations for December 23 & 24, the 4th week of Advent. Christmas Eve Mass **WILL NOT** fulfill your Mass obligation for the 4th week of Advent. Here is the Mass schedule for you to mark your calendars:

4th Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, December 23rd: 4pm Sunday, December 24th: 7am & 10:30am

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Sunday, December 24th: 4pm & Midnight Monday, December 25th: 9am

All are invited to SELA (Spirit of Elijah Lay Apostolate) on Wednesday, December 20th at Blessed Sacrament Church. The door is open to the public at 6:30pm and we begin at 7:00. This month we'll celebrate Advent in joyful anticipation of Christmas with an extended time of praise and worship, led by Dave Therrien's inspired music ministry. SELA founder, Jackie Picken, will talk briefly on the **Almighty, Earth Shattering, Heaven Rending Power of God – in a Manger!** Individual prayer is offered after the prayer meeting by the Lamb's Hands Healing Prayer Ministry. *O come all you faithful... and not so sure, too! Yes, if you're just curious, come! All are welcome!*

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Supporting Our Parish Through Electronic Giving

Now you can use your credit card or electronic check to support the mission of Blessed Sacrament. Using electronic giving is easy to do. Visit our website www.blessedsacramentnh.org and click on the Giving button. In a few minutes you can be sure that your gift will work every day of the year to help our parish.

Frequently asked question: What do I do at collection time? It feels awkward not to have an envelope to put in the basket.

Answer: "I Gave Online" cards are available on the table in the back of the church to place in the collection basket.

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.



Reconciliation Service, Sunday, December 17th 6pm, St. Marie's Church

Multiple priests will be available for confessions for the Reconciliation Service at Ste. Marie's, 378 Notre Dame Ave., Manchester, NH.

Couples Retreat: HIS NEEDS, HER NEEDS January 13, 2018 St. Peter Church, Auburn, NH \$30 per couple includes all day seminar and lunch for two. Space is limited to first 25 couples- register early and reserve your spot! For more information contact Scott or Martha at ScottnMartha@comcast.net This program is presented by Vita Nova, an association of lay people whose mission is to evangelize and to enrich the spiritual lives of the people of the Diocese of Manchester. Registration begins at 8:30am and the program runs from 9am to 3:30pm. VITA NOVA: Married Couples Day of Enrichment REGISTER ONLINE: VitaNova.org

Monday, Dec. 18th, 7 p.m. — **Trinity High School Meet and Greet Night**, offered to those students who are thinking about transferring into Trinity at the semester break or who missed the opportunity to attend the October Open House. Come and meet with faculty and staff representatives and take a tour with current students.



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. 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, mens sizes 10 and up. Thank you!!