

**NOVEMBER 27, 2016
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

MONDAY

8:30 Special Intention for Elizabeth Esposito req. by Anna & Simon

TUESDAY

8:30 Michael Donnelly req. by his wife, Betty

WEDNESDAY – St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30 Matthew Cowell req. by Family
Henry Cambouris req. by his son

THURSDAY

8:30 Deceased members of the Best and Karpilo Families req. by Charles & Maria Best

FRIDAY – First Friday

8:30 Deceased members of the Gorospe & Geronimo Families req. by Anna & Simon
9:30 Florence Lawston req. by Rev. Brow Parent Guild
Jared Plat req. by the Masone Family

SATURDAY - Saint Francis Xavier

8:30 Special Intention for the Geronimo Families req. by Anna & Simon
5:30 Josephine Iacono req. by Dottie Capasso
Members of the Purgatorial Society

**DECEMBER 4, 2016
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

7:45 People of the Parish
9:00 Edward Jarosz req. by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rizzo
10:30 Joseph Corbo req. by Karl & Karin Meyer
12:00 Ann Barrett req. by Bridget & Tom Manning
Special Intention for Kelly Laureano & Miriam Weinstein req. by Anna & Simon
5:00 Darlene Davis req. by Kathleen Makoujy

PARISH FINANCES

Because of our early deadline because of the holiday, the collections will be published in next week's bulletin.

We await the Savior
EMMANUEL

REFLECTION

PREPARING FOR THE LORD'S COMING

Advent is less a season of passive waiting or happy anticipation than as a time for active preparation. For many of us, this may be a matter of dismantling the obstacles in us and around us that impede the coming of God's kingdom. First of all, then, we need to rouse ourselves to listen more attentively to God's voice calling us to renewal: in the liturgy, in our private prayer and reading, and in our conscience.

To this end, the Church repeatedly relays to us the cry of John the Baptist, demanding that we prepare the way for the Lord by a profound change of heart and mind in an effort to practice righteousness in all our endeavors. This season can be, if we choose, a time for personal renewal.



Advent is a season of good news and hope. But good news has no effect on us unless we hear it. It makes no difference to me that I have won the lottery if nobody has told me about it. So the joy of Advent comes from

listening more attentively for the word that comes from God and welcoming it with what St. Paul calls "the obedience of faith."

In a sense, the whole life of a Christian should be a continual season of Advent – reading the signs of the times, actively listening for the coming of the Lord, and happily welcoming his coming in unexpected moments of everyday life.

The Lord came once in history, two thousand years ago. He will come again at the end of history to restore a renewed cosmos to his Father. He also comes every day in the hearts of those little ones who have made themselves ready to receive him.

Michael Casey, a Cistercian monk.

THE WEEK IN THE PARISH 11/19/16 – 11/26/16

Sun.	1:00 PM Women's Social	Cassidy Hall
Tues.	9:00 AM Scripture Sharing	Library
	7:00 PM DVD Series	Youth Room
Wed.	7:00 PM Choir Practice	Church
Thurs.	6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
	7:00 PM Divorce Support	St. Lucy
Fri.	7:00 PM Filipino Mass	Church/Youth Room
	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	2:00 PM Christ in Christmas	McKenna Hall
	9:30 & 11:00 First Reconciliation	Church
	6:30 PM Tree Lighting	Parish Center
	8:30 PM AA	McKenna Hall

LITURGY

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The words of Isaiah urge all people to forsake war and to live in peace forever. The tone reaches a climax in the words, "One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again."

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul invites us to put away all the things of darkness and sin and to prepare for the coming of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

A comparison is made between the destruction caused by the flood in Noah's time and the need to be prepared for the second coming of Christ. "You must be prepared in the same way. The Son of Man is coming at the time you least expect."

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

FILIPINO MASS

The bi-lingual Filipino Mass will be celebrated on First Friday, December 2nd at 7:00 PM in Church. Fellowship will follow in the Youth Room. All are welcome.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, 1st Lt. Christopher Tantillo; Cpl. Conor J. Brady, USMC, LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1st Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat'l Guard, Brandon Adams, USAF. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women.



CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF SUSSEX COUNTY NEWS

A Note from the Principal: Susan M. Santore
Pope John Middle XXIII School

FLL Robotics

Pope John XXIII Middle School fielded two robotics teams at the First Lego League Tournament which was held on Saturday, November 19th. The robotics competition consisted of building and programming a robot that will succeed in many tasks on a playing a field and finding a solution to a real-world problem designated for the competition. This year's "Animal Allies" theme had all Robotics Teams researching how they can solve challenges that exist when humans and animals interact. Each of the middle school teams took on the challenge in very different ways. The teams were excited to share their ideas with NJ State Senator Steven Oroho (R-Sussex) on November 3. Senator Oroho listened to both presentations and provided valuable information as to how the State has been involved with both issues. This opportunity not only allowed the students to practice their presentation skills, but also enabled them to see that these important issues are being addressed by NJ policymakers.



Additional information about Pope John XXIII Middle School is available on our website at www.popejohnms.org. We invite you to come visit to meet our students and staff. Please call 973-729-1967 to schedule a tour.

FOURTH GRADERS ATTEND MASS WITH BISHOP

On Friday November 18th twenty-one fourth grade Reverend Brown students attended mass at St. Philip the Apostle Church. The mass was celebrated by Bishop Arthur Serratelli to mark the closings for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WE ARE FORGIVEN

This week the young people of the parish preparing for Reconciliation reflected on the story of the prodigal son and the forgiving father. Each time we pray the Our Father we are reminded of God's forgiving love and our call, as children of God, to share that forgiving love with others. How do we as a parish welcome people unconditionally with a heart filled with joy?

SPIRITUALITY OF THE TWELVE STEPS FOR EVERYONE

You are invited on a powerful journey that will lead you along the steps towards freedom and new life. The spirituality of the 12 steps transcends multiple religious and secular traditions, and it gets to the heart of the most basic of human desires: happiness, peace, and inner freedom. Join us on Tuesdays, at 7 – 8:30 PM in Cassidy Hall for this DVD series led by Fr. Anthony Ciorra, with follow-up discussion & refreshments.

DOGMA TEAM

Dogma Team usually meets on Mondays, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CHRISTMAS CONCERT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th 4:00 PM.

Come and sing along!

*Share the joy as we await the coming of
Our Lord Jesus!*

*Join us for the reading of nine
lessons from
Sacred Scripture
celebrating the birth of
Jesus along with Our
Lady of the Lake
Children's Choir,
Adult Choir, and
instrumentalists
performing traditional and contemporary
Christmas Music.*

Hope to see you there!

Free will offering will be appreciated.



WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

Thursday Day of Prayer

Come join us for the First Thursday 'Day of Prayer' at Sacred Heart Spirituality Center on December 1st where we will celebrate Advent with a Marian reflection on "To Jesus, She Leads," The day begins at 9:00 AM with 'coffee and,' and includes a talk, Adoration, Confessions, Mass, and a light lunch. The day concludes at about 1:30 PM. Fifteen dollars is the suggested offering. Phone: (973) 383-2620 or email shretreatcenter@gmail.com.

Carmelite Advent Day

National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 70 Carmelite Dr., Middletown, NY, December 3, 2016, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Presenter: Fr. Kevin Alban, O.Carm. Topic: "Mary, Woman of the Word". Cost: \$40. Includes continental breakfast, & hot lunch. Please make checks payable to: *Lay Carmelite Office*

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

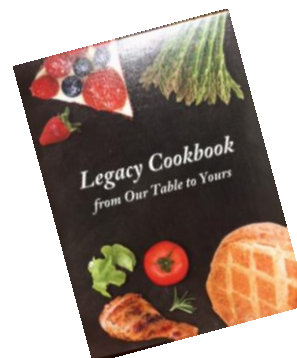
ADOPT-A-FAMILY



Wrapped gifts will be accepted in McKenna Hall on **Saturday, December 10th**.

OLL LEGACY COOKBOOKS ON SALE

Our Lady of the Lake Legacy Cookbooks have been published and are available for purchase every Sunday after Mass. They are \$25 each and make great Christmas gifts. They may also be purchased at the Sparta Book Club. Please support this important fundraiser. Thank you.



ADVENT BEGINS

There will be confessions on Monday evenings during Advent at 7:30 PM.

The Communal Penance Service will be on Monday, December 19 at 7:30 PM.

Our Lady of the Lake Church

294 Sparta Avenue

Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Phone: 973-729-6107 Fax: 973-729-7203

Web Site: www.ourladyofthelake.org

Parish Staff

Rev. David McDonnell	Pastor
Rev. Marcin Bradtke	Associate Pastor
Mr. Anthony (Sonny) Curcio	Deacon
Mr. James McGovern	Deacon
Elizabeth Heldak	Director of Religious Education
Laurie DiCianni	Confirmation Coord.-Youth Minister
Krzysztof Kowalewski	Music Director
Ellen Ormond	Secretary/Bookkeeper
Joanna Mattos	Secretary
Denise Aldana	Social Ministries

Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 5:30 P.M.

Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 A.M. and 12 Noon

5:00 P.M. (except June, July, and August)

Weekday Masses 8:30 A.M.

Holy Day Masses

8:30, 9:30 A.M. (except August 15th), and 7:00 P.M.

Confessions

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 and at 6:30 P.M.

Novena

Miraculous Medal Devotions: Saturday 8:30 A.M.

Eucharist Adoration:

Thursday 9:00 to 7:00 P.M.

For information on Baptisms, Marriages, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Visitation of the Sick, Parish Membership, please call the parish office at (973) 729-6107.

New Parishioners - Welcome!

Won't you please register at the Parish Office

Monday - Friday, 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Or find our registration form on our webpage

www.ourladyofthelake.org

COME TOGETHER ONE AND ALL TWO GREAT EVENTS!! DECEMBER 3, 2016

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM, Build a Teddy Bear for the Homeless Children.



On Saturday, December 3rd. Our Lady of the Lake, with the aid of our Confirmation and local high school students, will bring "Christ in Christmas" to life. This event in the spirit of

the true meaning of Christmas, brings together young children ages 5 through 10 to build Teddy Bears for the children in homeless shelters in the Sussex County area. This year the bears will be donated to our 160 families currently resident at homeless shelters in Sussex County. We invite you to join us in McKenna Hall from 2-3:30 PM, as a parish family for Christmas cheer and spirit. Check our parish home page of the OLL website at

www.ourladyofthelake.org

Let us know you are coming – register at <https://2016christinchristmas.eventbrite.com>

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 6:30 PM – (After the 5:30 Mass)



The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Christmas Tree Lighting. It will include the lighting of a Christmas tree and the church decorations as well as caroling. The Knights will be serving hot chocolate, chili, and other refreshments that evening. This parish event is a great family evening. Open to our entire community, so **"Come One, Come All"**, invite a friend, family member or neighbor to join us too!