

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

-Matthew 3, 2



Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 3, First Saturday, St. Francis Xavier, Priest

12:05 Same Damiano & Family
5:15 Essie Mae Rubin

Dec. 4, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish
9:30 Michael Olivier
11:00 Deceased Members of the League of the Sacred Heart
12:30 Valentina y Alberto Villamarin y familia
6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dec. 5, Monday, Advent Weekday

7:15 For the intentions of Anthony Masi
12:05 Charles Galipo

Dec. 6, Tuesday, Advent Weekday, St. Nicholas Bishop

7:15 Jodi Stenz - Howard
12:05 Teresita Mejia Pinto & Family

Dec. 7, Wednesday, St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:15 Essie Mae Rubin
12:05 Leone Family
5:15 Anticipated Mass for Immaculate conception in Chapel, Celebrant's intention, with music

Dec. 8, Thursday, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

7:15 Celebrant's intention. Chapel
12:05 Pro Populo. Basilica, with music
12:35 Celebrant's intention. Chapel
5:15 Celebrant's intention. Chapel, with music
7:00 *In the Extraordinary Form.* Basilica

Dec. 9, Friday, Advent Weekday, St. Juan Diego

7:15 Larry Green
12:05 Salvatore Renzi

Dec. 10, Saturday, Advent Weekday

12:05 William C. DiNardo
5:15 Giuseppina Giacomucci

Dec. 11, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish
9:30 Lena Quici
11:00 Umberto Giacomucci & Family
12:30 Nava Sanchez
6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. And before you know it, it will be the Third and the Fourth Sunday of Advent and then Christmas Day. Advent passes so quickly and often without us realizing how quickly. The Church describes Advent as “a period of devout and expectant delight.” What can we do to enter into this spirit of Advent with sincere devotion and joyful anticipation of Christmas? The prayers of the Sacred Liturgy during these early days of Advent give us a clue. Even with Christmas carols playing everywhere and decorations for Christmas already in place, Christmas is still on its way. *We are preparing to once again celebrate the Birth of Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer. As we prepare, we do so with prayer—watchful prayer.* This prayer looks to the Nativity with sentiments of joy, the need to ready our souls with penance and conversion, and a renewed gratitude for the Father's love and mercy for us. *Decide this Second Sunday of Advent to put some time aside each day—as these days before Christmas become more hectic—to pray, to pray with the focused intention to keep a better Advent this year, to be spiritually ready for Christmas Day.*

The Advent Holy Day comes this week with the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Thursday, December 8, 2016. This Holy Day of Obligation is also the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America. The Immaculate Conception, as a Holy Day of Obligation, requires us to participate at Mass and to conduct ourselves throughout the day as much as possible like a Sunday.

Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 8, 2016

5:15 PM Anticipated Mass (Chapel)
on Wednesday, December 7, 2016.
7:15 AM (Chapel), 12:05 PM (Basilica),
12:35 PM (Chapel) and 5:15 PM (Chapel),
7:00 PM (Basilica) in the Extraordinary Form.
Confessions in the Basilica at 11:30 AM

Twenty minutes before Mass for the Immaculate Conception, excluding the 12:35 and 7:00 PM Masses, the Holy Rosary will be prayed for our nation. If possible, plan to join others before Mass for this powerful prayer of Our Lady's intercession.

You are reminded that in additions to Confessions at 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM, there is an additional period at 10:30 AM on the Sundays of Advent.

The second collection at Mass next Sunday will be directed to the poor and needy in the Cathedral Parish neighborhood. Thank you so very much for all of your goodness and generosity to the Cathedral Parish.

God bless you,
Father Dennis Gill

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

We encourage you to prepare for the birth of our Lord during Advent. Pray, visit our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, read scripture, disconnect from your hectic schedule while you commute, on your lunch break or at home. Listen to live broadcasts or podcasts on Catholic Media. Recommended resources: **Bishop Robert Barron's** daily Advent reflections adventreflections.com/sign-up-advent, EWTN ewtn.com/advent/, Relevant Radio: relevantradio.com & 640 AM WWJZ



WEEK 2 OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent

The light of the moon will be like that of the sun and the light of the sun will be seven times greater (like the light of seven days). On the day the Lord binds up the wounds of His people, He will heal the bruises left by His blows. (Isaiah 30:26)

Reflection: Many people scoff at the idea of miracles. Unwilling to believe that Jesus could restore the sight of the blind when He walked on earth, they are unwilling to see the miracles that Jesus continues to work today. If we are open to the guiding touch of God's hand and willing to discover His plan for our lives, miracles will happen. What prevents us from seeing and being a part of God's miracles? Would we rather be blind?

Advent Action: Send a get-well card to someone in the hospital.

Prayer: Lord, clarify my vision that I may see You in others and sense You within my own soul.

(Source: ewtn.com/advent/week2.asp)



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

The Cathedral Parish offers year round opportunities for people seeking more information about the Catholic Faith, the Sacraments and living the Christian Life. These opportunities are for adults who would like to inquire about following Jesus and becoming a member of the Catholic Church, or, if you are already a baptized Christian and would like to become a Catholic, or, if you are already a baptized Catholic and would like to receive Confirmation and Holy Communion. There are many people like yourself inquiring, and we are ready to answer your questions. Please contact the Parish Office for more information. (215)561-1313



Please remember these parishioners and friends of the Cathedral Parish in your prayers/ *Ora por los enfermos:*

Paige Bednarsky, Patrick DiGiovanni, Patricia Capone, Rosemary Lovett, Grace Teti, Nick Capozio, Darcel Burney, Fred Hankinson, Renee Kenny, Thomas J. Kenny, Stacey Smit, Anadelia Cacique, Alis de Pachecho, JoAnn Stein, Francis Pham, Ita Creavin, William Spiro, Scott Towers, Daniel Moyer Sr., James Pinto, James Ross, Pearl Hammond, Loretta Braccili, Dorothy Tomassini, Pam Buccelli, Barbara Denny, Charlotte McLaughlin, Amberlyn Boland, Wendy Cornel, Michelle, Oscar Rodriguez, Enrique Rodriguez, Linda Watson, Randy Burbage, Rosa Maria Santos, Amy Fife, Theodore Barry, M.D., Marissa Kostrzewa, David Kaplan, Marilyn Mullen, Kathleen Aponik, April DeMatto, Paula Cohen, Janice Holshin, Lauri Mitchell, Maryann Healy, Darren Gardner, Barbara Elaine, and those in nursing homes or hospitals and all the sick.. **Please call the Parish Office with the name of anyone who is sick, to be included in our prayer list. Por favor llamar a la oficina parroquial para añadir a la lista los nombres de personas que estén enfermas.**

-2- 062 cathd



The Sanctuary Lamp Candle burns this week in the Cathedral Basilica

For: Amelia & Joseph Petrick
From: Their children



Donations are accepted for intentions for the Sanctuary Lamp in the Basilica and the Cathedral Chapel. This candle burns perpetually as a reminder that Jesus is truly and really present in the tabernacle. If you wish to make the suggested donation of fifteen dollars for an intention for a Sanctuary Lamp, you may contact the Parish Office directly or place your intention and offering in the collection basket.

Readings for Mass for this Week

Please see the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. usccb.org/bible/readings
Las lecturas de la semana están disponibles en el enlace de arriba

Give a Christmas Gift that will change a life

Picking the perfect gift for someone can be a challenge. A gift given to the poor in your beloved one's honor is a thoughtful gesture that is sure to delight them foodforthe poor.org/gift-catalog/wb/2016-christmas-7903/

HOW IT WORKS

STEP 1



Choose a gift to help those in need.

STEP 2



Send an eCard or gift notification telling your loved one about the gift given in their honor.

STEP 3



Your gift is sent where it is needed the most.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Financial Support of the Cathedral Parish is the duty of our parishioners. Here at the Cathedral Parish we are greatly supported as well by our many visitors.

The Offertory Collection for Sunday, 11/20/16 was \$6,391.50 and for Sunday, 11/27/16 was \$11,822. This generosity demonstrates the support, interest and encouragement of so many for the ministry and service of the Cathedral Parish to carry out the work of the Gospel.

Thank you very much for your generous financial support.

What's Happening at the Parish Outside the Liturgical Schedule

- Dec. 4** Baptisms, Basilica, 12:30 PM
- Dec. 5** Annual Red Mass, Basilica, 5:15 PM
- Dec. 7** Morning Scripture for Lawyers,
Neumann Room, 8:00 AM
Charismatic Prayer Group,
Neumann Room, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 7 & 8** See Mass Schedule for the
**Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation**
- Dec. 11** Archdiocesan Christmas Concert,
Basilica, 3:00 PM
Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe (in Spanish),
Basilica, 9:00 PM

ANUNCIOS

Reflexiones diarias durante el Adviento

Lo invitamos a prepararse para el nacimiento de Nuestro Señor durante este Adviento. Ore, visite al Señor en el Sagrario, desconéctese de las distracciones, escuche radio y televisión católica... **Recomendaciones: Meditaciones diarias en español en EWTN** ewtn.com/espanol/calendario_de_adviento/ y por el Obispo Robert Barron adventreflections.com/sign-up-advent Nuestra Señora del Encuentro Radio en vivo o referido: nseradio.com/

Concierto Navideño en el Seminario - Gratis!

Domingo, 4 de diciembre, 2016, 4:00 PM

Lo invitamos a escuchar a nuestros talentosos seminaristas del Seminario de San Carlos. Habrá tours de 1 hora a partir de la 1 PM hasta las 3 PM, refrigerio antes del concierto. **Lugar:** 100 E Wynnewood Rd, Wynnewood, PA 19096 Overbrook, PA. • (610) 667-3394 • www.scs.edu

Concierto Navideño en la Basílica

Domingo, 11 de diciembre, 2016 at 3:00 PM

Disfrute de la música navideña en el concierto por los talentosos coros arquidiocesanos. Ver precios en la última página. Puede adquirir los boletos a la entrada o en la página de internet CathedralPhilaConcerts.org

Misa en honor de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Domingo, 11 de diciembre, 2016, 9:00 PM en la Basílica

El Árbol de Adviento - Regalos para los necesitados

A partir del 27 de Noviembre lo invitamos a participar en la recolección de regalos para los necesitados de nuestra área. Por favor tome un papelito del árbol de Navidad ubicado en la Basílica, cada papel tiene escrito el nombre de un objeto que se necesita. Por favor empaque el objeto en papel regalo y péguele el papelito que tomó del árbol, así sabremos a quien asignar cada regalo, luego, traiga el regalo a la Sacristía después o antes de la Santa Misa a más tardar el **18 de diciembre**; de esta manera se podrán repartir los regalos antes de la **Noche Buena. Bendiciones!**

VIVIENDO LA CORRESPONSABILIDAD

Un Nuevo Comienzo

El Evangelio de san Lucas precisa el año cuando Juan Bautista comenzó a anunciar la salvación de Dios; sin embargo los cuatro evangelios mantienen silencio en cuanto a la fecha del nacimiento de Jesús. La preocupación por fechas y exactitudes es una noción moderna. Los evangelios se concentran más en el porqué de esa irrupción tan personal de Dios en la historia de la humanidad: La Buena Nueva de que Dios viene a nuestro encuentro sin importar nuestra condición, así nos encontremos estancados, en las peores situaciones o apenas comenzando a distanciarnos. Para sorpresa de toda la gente "buena", Jesús pasa mucho tiempo con hombres y mujeres de reputación dudosa, perdona sus pecados y pone la esperanza en sus corazones—exactamente lo opuesto de lo que espera la sociedad. Nunca es tarde para darle cabida a Dios en nuestro corazón, arrepentirnos de nuestros pecados y buscar un nuevo comienzo. A fin de comenzar de nuevo, reza para poder hacer la voluntad de Dios y busca una proporción para ofrecer tu tiempo, tus habilidades y tus recursos a la comunidad y al mundo a nuestro alrededor—a lo que san Pablo llama producir "los frutos de la justicia" (Filipenses 1:11). Parece más fácil dar alrededor del tiempo de Navidad cuando se apodera de nosotros el espíritu navideño y eso está bien. Pero lo que cuenta más es llevar ese espíritu el resto del año.

La Corresponsabilidad Viva Ahora

Toma parte activa en la celebración parroquial de la reconciliación de Adviento o en el sacramento de la reconciliación y experimenta de nuevo el amor misericordioso de Dios.

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¿Qué es el Adviento?

El Adviento es el comienzo del Año Litúrgico, empieza el domingo más próximo al 30 de noviembre y termina el 24 de diciembre. Son los cuatro domingos anteriores a la Navidad y forma una unidad con la Navidad y la Epifanía.

El término "Adviento" viene del latín *adventus*, que significa venida, llegada. El color usado en la liturgia de la Iglesia durante este tiempo es el morado. Con el Adviento comienza un nuevo año litúrgico en la Iglesia.

El sentido del Adviento es avivar en los creyentes la espera del Señor.

Se puede hablar de dos partes del Adviento:

Primera Parte: Desde el primer domingo al día 16 de diciembre, con marcado carácter escatológico, mirando a la venida del Señor al final de los tiempos. **Segunda Parte:** Desde el 17 de diciembre al 24 de diciembre, es la llamada "Semana Santa" de la Navidad, y se orienta a preparar más explícitamente la venida de Jesucristo en la historia, la Navidad.

Las lecturas bíblicas de este tiempo de Adviento están tomadas sobre todo del profeta Isaías (primera lectura), también se recogen los pasajes más proféticos del Antiguo Testamento señalando la llegada del Mesías. Isaías, Juan Bautista y María de Nazaret son los modelos de creyentes que la Iglesia ofrece a los fieles para preparar la venida del Señor Jesús.

aciprensa.com/recursos/que-es-el-adviento-1747/ -3- 062 cathd

NEXT
CATECHETICAL SESSION FOR ADULTS

The Sacraments

December 14, 7:00 PM
Meeting in the Neumann Room

The weekly catechetical session is primarily for the adults among us who are preparing to receive the Easter Sacraments. However, anyone interested in the topic for better understanding and faith formation is most welcome to attend. Anyone, especially our parishioners, seeking more information on the reception of the Sacraments or assisting as a sponsor, please call the Parish Office.



**HOSPICE SUNDAY
NEXT WEEKEND**

Please remember to bring your food donations for **St. John's Hospice**. Please bring all items to Mass and leave them in the Sacristy. Your recent donations were very much appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity, God bless you.

GIVE TO GROW

Together

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Upcoming Events for the Young Adults of the Cathedral Parish:

- 1) **Service Activity:** Do you like to sing Christmas carols? Do you want share the Christmas spirit with everyone around you? Please join us as the Young Adults at the Cathedral are going sing Christmas carols to a couple of local senior living communities on **Monday, Dec. 12 from 7:30-9:00pm**. If interested, please email youngadults.cathedral@gmail.com so we can have a headcount! We hope each of you can join us!
- 2) **Rosary before Mass:** We hope that each of you will consider joining us every **second Sunday of the month at 5:45pm prior to the 6:30pm Mass** to pray the Rosary as a group. If you are interested in the Young Adults of the Cathedral Parish as well as receiving the most up-to-date information on our group's events please e-mail us. Please search for our Facebook page (search: Young Adults at the Cathedral).

*Christmas Crèche Exhibit
From Around the World*

**Fine Art & Folk Art
The Christmas Crèche**

**St. Charles Seminary
Ryan Memorial Library**

Dec. 1, 2016 - Jan. 31, 2017

All are welcome! No fee

100 East Wynnewood Rd,
Wynnewood, PA 19096
(610)667-3394



**The Christmas
Creche Committee**

cordially invites you to join in
celebrating

**The Twentieth
Annual**

*Blessing of the
Nativity Scene*



Wednesday, December 14th, 2016
3:00 PM
18th & Race: Adjacent to the Cathedral

Carols by the students of
St. Francis Xavier School

SPONSORED BY:

ANCIENT ORDER OF
HIBERNIANS

KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS

Advent Giving Tree

The *Advent Giving Tree* in the Basilica is decorated with gift tags which identify gift ideas for the less fortunate in our area. This year the gifts will be distributed to St. Francis Inn, Women of Hope, St. John's Hospice, Sacred Heart Home and other neighborhood institutions that service the homeless and needy. **The tree will be up starting Sunday, November 27.**

Please participate in the *Advent Giving Tree*! During the first weeks of Advent take a gift tag or tags. The gifts may be dropped off in the **Sacristy** before or after Mass, wrapped and with the identifying tag on each gift **by the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18.** This will allow for the distribution of these gifts for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your generosity to the many men, women and children who will benefit from your kindness this Christmas.



*Concerts at the
Cathedral Basilica*

*Come and Experience
Great Music in the Cathedral*



Christmas at the Cathedral Basilica
Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 3:00 PM



The choirs of the Cathedral Basilica and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia join forces in beautiful carols and the traditional music of Christmas. Resounding brass add to the spectacle as hundreds of voices sing in celebration of festive season!

Premium Front, \$43.50

Front Section, \$37.50

General Admission Front \$32.50

General Admission Balance, \$24.50

Senior Admission, \$19.50

Student Admission - *must present valid student ID*, \$10

For more information and to
Purchase Tickets visit:

www.CathedralPhilaConcerts.org

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

Seminary Open House and Christmas Concert

THE EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Keep Christ in Christmas by partaking in a guided tour of the campus and lovely grounds of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary and enjoy the **Christmas concert** featuring the Seminary Choir and Musicians. One hour tours begin at 1:00 PM with the last tour at 3:00 PM. Light refreshments preceding the **4:00 pm concert**.

Location: 100 E Wynnewood Rd, Wynnewood, PA 19096
(610) 667-3394 • www.scs.edu

Procession: Along With Our Mother

Sunday, December 4, 2016 - 10:00am

Join St. Agatha-St. James Parish and the Penn and Drexel Newman Communities in this year's Marian Procession as we walk through our community and pray for our intentions. Location: The procession will start at 10:00 AM at Drexel's Dornsife Community Center at 36th and Spring Garden. We will walk through both Drexel and Penn, arriving at the church at 38th and Chestnut in time for the 11:30 AM Mass. More info: evensi.us/procession-along-with-our-mother-3509-spring-garden-st/190303918

The Culture Project's Christmas Party

Friday, December 9, 2016 - 7:30pm-10pm

Wine & beer, hors d'oeuvre, entertainment and special guests. Location: Eakins Room, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, 100 E Wynnewood Rd, Wynnewood, PA 19096. More info: restoreculture.com/christmas2016/



Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception

December 8, 2016

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, did prepare a worthy dwelling place for Your Son, we beseech You that, as by the foreseen death of this,

Your Son, You did preserve Her from all stain, so too You would permit us, purified through Her intercession, to come unto You. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP NOW

Beginning Anew

In the Gospels, Luke pinpoints the year when John the Baptist first began to announce the salvation of God. Only Matthew and Luke make any mention of how and where Jesus was born; all four Gospels are silent on the exact date of Jesus' birth. Preoccupation with accurate dates and details is a modern notion. The Gospel writers are much more intent on what it means that God has broken so personally into human history. The Good News is that God comes to meet us no matter what condition we are in: sick, divorced, caring for an elderly parent, depressed, suffering a business loss, estranged from family. God comes to us when we have hit the wall, bottomed out, or simply begun to drift away. In the Gospels, to the astonishment of all the "good" people, Jesus spends a lot of time with men and women of low reputation. Jesus does exactly the opposite of what society expects: He forgives their sins and puts hope in their hearts. As Oscar Wilde once said, "Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future," which is another way of saying that it is never too late to allow God into our hearts and, repenting of our sins, begin anew. Beginning anew includes praying to do God's will and then giving a proportion of our time, our abilities, and our resources to our community and the world around us—what Saint Paul, in today's reading, calls producing "the fruit of righteousness" (Philippians 1:11). It seems easier to give around Christmas time when we are in the Christmas spirit, and that is all well and good. The more difficult but essential part is to take that same Christmas spirit into the rest of the year.

Living Stewardship Now

Take part in the parish Advent penance service or the sacrament of reconciliation, and experience again God's loving mercy.

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Tours of the Cathedral Basilica

A guided tour of the Basilica is available **after the 11:00 AM Sunday Mass**. Please gather in front of the Side Altar of the Sacred Heart, which is located to the right of the Main Sanctuary.

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