

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way before you”

-Matthew 11, 10



Mass Intentions for the Week



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

Dec. 12, Monday, USA: Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:15 Larry Green
12:05 Danny Chaves

Dec. 13, Tuesday, St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

7:15 Essie Mae Rubin
12:05 Sabino Serrano Perez

Dec. 14, Wednesday, St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:15 For the intentions of
Gabriel and Maria Cecilia Martin
12:05 William R. Albertus

Dec. 15, Thursday, Advent Weekday

7:15 Honorable Frank E. Cicone
12:05 Dolores Piccari

Dec. 16, Friday, Advent Weekday

7:15 Umberto Pellegrin
12:05 John F. Duffy

Dec. 17, Saturday, Late Advent Weekday

12:05 Sister Grace O'Connor
5:15 Stephen Pron

Dec. 18, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish
9:30 Arthur Quici
11:00 Frank & Nancy Mazza
12:30 Esther Torres
6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. This Sunday is often referred to as *Gaudete Sunday* which comes from the Latin first word of the Introit for today's Mass, *Gaudete, Rejoice*. The nearness of the celebration of the Birth of our Savior calls for rejoicing and at the same time a renewed commitment to prepare for so great a gift. We have the full four weeks of Advent this year before Christmas Day. This gives us the continued opportunity to engage these days of preparation with a true seriousness to be ready spiritually for the Nativity of the Lord. *You are reminded that in addition 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 Parish Pastoral Council is a vital dimension of our Cathedral Parish. This Council advises the Pastor on the needs and concerns of the Parish and represents all members of the Parish. We failed to have sufficient nominees for the recent election process for new members. So, I exercised the option of naming two parishioners, Carmen De Jesus and Philomena Stephen-King, to fill the two vacancies with the Fall of 2016. Please seek out Council members to express concerns and ideas for discussion at Council meetings. The membership of the current Parish Pastoral Council is:

Rector and Pastor	Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill
Parochial Vicar	Reverend Kenneth C. Brabazon

EX OFFICIO

Permanent Deacon	Epifanio De Jesus
Director of Parish	
Liturgical Music	Charlene Angelini
Member of the Parish	
Finance Council	Matthew Oberholzer

SIX ELECTED MEMBERS

Young Adult (2018)	Richele Rainosek
Single Adult (2018)	Barbara Rensman
Married Couple (2017)	Mary Ann & Michael Leigh
Senior Adult (2017)	Nicholas Pascale
Spanish Community (2019)	Carmen De Jesus
Liturgical Ministry (2019)	Philomena Stephen-King

THREE APPOINTED MEMBERS

Parish Religious Education	Patricia Smith (2019)
	Dennis Boylan (2017)
	Kyle Doolan (2019)

The second collection at Mass next Sunday will be to support the liturgical music program of the Cathedral Parish. Thank you so very much for all of your goodness and generosity to the Cathedral Parish.

God bless you, Father Dennis Gill

-1- 062 cathd

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all. O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light two (purple) advent candles and the third (pink) of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

Rejoicing

"(The desert) will bloom with abundant flowers and rejoice with joyful song." "Rejoice in the Lord always!" "Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!"

The Scriptures for the Third Sunday of Advent proclaim their message in no uncertain terms: Rejoice! Joy is all around us and our celebration of Advent calls us to discover it. The joy that the Scripture passages speak about is not a joy that equates with hilarious laughter. It is a joy that comes from a security with our God, those around us, and our place in the world. It is the joy Isaiah describes when he writes, "I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul." It is a joy that cannot be bought or obtained from artificial highs. It is a joy that comes from our living faith in a living God.

It is the joy we feel as we approach the birth of our Savior and remember the awesome beauty of what happened on that cold Bethlehem night.

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

Additional resources: **Bishop Robert Barron's** daily Advent reflections adventreflections.com/sign-up-advent, EWTN ewtn.com/advent/, Relevant Radio: relevantradio.com & 640 AM WWJZ

New Parishioners

Welcome to the Cathedral Parish!

The easiest way to register can be accomplished by speaking with one of the parish priests after any regularly scheduled Mass. If preferred, you can also contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment to meet with a priest for parish registration.

Parish Office phone number is 215-561-1313.



The Sanctuary Lamp Candle burns this week in the Cathedral Basilica

*For: Barbara Choate
From: Nicholas & Louise Pascale*



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, 12/04/16 was \$8,469. 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.



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

Edward Panek, Irene McCarthy, 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, 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.

What's Happening at the Parish Outside the Liturgical Schedule

Dec. 11 Today!

Archdiocesan Christmas Concert, Basilica, 3 PM
Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe (in Spanish),
Basilica, 9:00 PM

Dec. 14 Morning Scripture for Lawyers,

Neumann Room, 8:00 AM
Charismatic Prayer Group,
Neumann Room, 6:00 PM

Dec. 15 Posadas, Chapel Hall, 7:00 PM

Dec. 18 Baptism Prep Session, Basilica, 12:30 PM

Men's Discernment Group,
Neumann Room, 7:30 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 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

Bendición del Pesebre Navideño

Miércoles, 14 de diciembre, 3:00 PM

18th & Race: Al lado de la Catedral
Cantos navideños por los estudiantes de
St. Francis Xavier School

Marcha por la Vida 2017

27 de enero, 2017 - Washington, D.C

El Árbol de Adviento - Regalos para los necesitados

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 tomo 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!**

Los Personajes del Adviento



Isaías

“Figura de espera por la Salvación.

La elección de las lecturas de Adviento nos ha puesto en frecuente contacto con Isaías.

Conviene reflexionar un poco sobre su personalidad. Los textos evangélicos no dicen nada de la personalidad del profeta Isaías, pero le citan. Incluso podemos decir que, a menudo, se le adivina presente en el pensamiento y hasta en las palabras de Cristo. Es el profeta por excelencia del tiempo de la espera; está asombrosamente cercano, es de los nuestros, de hoy. Lo está por su deseo de liberación, su deseo de lo absoluto de Dios...”

Juan Bautista

“Figura de preparación: ...Juan Bautista es el signo de la irrupción de Dios en su pueblo. El Señor le visita, le libra, realiza la alianza que había prometido.

El papel del precursor es muy preciso: prepara los caminos del Señor (Is 40, 3), da a su pueblo el "conocimiento de la salvación. Todo el afán especulativo y contemplativo de Israel es conocer la salvación, las maravillas del designio de Dios sobre su pueblo. El conocimiento de esa salvación provoca en él la acción de gracias, la bendición, la proclamación de los beneficios de Dios que se expresa por el "Bendito sea el Señor, Dios de Israel...”

La Santísima Virgen María

“Virgen de la esperanza y Madre del Salvador.

La primera venida del Señor se realizó gracias a ella. Y, por ello, todas las generaciones le llamamos Bienaventurada. Hoy, que preparamos, cada año, una nueva venida, los ojos de la Iglesia se vuelven a ella, para aprender, con estremecimiento y humildad agradecida, cómo se espera y cómo se prepara la venida del Emmanuel: del Dios con nosotros. Más aún, para aprender también cómo se da al mundo el Salvador.

Sobre el papel de la Virgen María en la venida del Señor, la liturgia del Adviento ofrece dos síntesis, en los prefacios II y IV de este tiempo:

"...Cristo Señor nuestro, a quien todos los profetas anunciaron, la Virgen esperó con inefable amor de Madre, Juan lo proclamó ya próximo y señaló después entre los hombres. El mismo Señor nos concede ahora prepararnos con alegría al Misterio de su Nacimiento, para encontrarnos así, cuando llegue, velando en oración y cantando su alabanza"..."

Ver el artículo completo en:

aciprensa.com/recursos/los-personajes-del-adviento-1751/

LA CORRESPONSABILIDAD VIVIDA 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.

Copyright © 2009, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.
-3- 062 cathd

CATECHETICAL SESSION FOR ADULTS
THIS WEEK

The Sacraments

Thursday, December 15, 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.

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.

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.

Awesome faith formation at your fingertips!

Subscribe to this exciting online platform, which can be streamed to your TV or mobile device, To register go to www.FORMED.org. Type in our parish code, 07854f. Set up a username and a password. More info at (267)485-1463

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).



CATHEDRAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Our parish Charismatic Prayer Group meets faithfully each week to join together for prayer and to intercede with the Lord for many intentions, including the intentions of the parish. The Charismatic Prayer Group now provides a way for us to send to them our requests for prayer. Simply e-mail your intentions and prayer requests to:

Cathedral.prayer.requests@gmail.com

The Charismatic Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 6 PM in the Neumann Room.

Cathedral Custom Rosary

Our custom made rosaries from the Ghirelli Rosary Company in Italy are still available for purchase. Choose from two styles of bohemian glass beads—either brown or pearl/green. The Cathedral Rosary can be purchased in the Cathedral Shop.



BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is the doorway to the Christian life and to all the other Sacraments. As such, preparation of the parents and for the Baptism itself deserve very special attention. The celebration of Baptism at the Cathedral Parish takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 12:30 PM after the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass. Everyone is welcome. The celebration will be carried out with liturgical music and with a great sense of hospitality. **Date Change: Baptisms will take place on Sunday, January 8th** (there won't be baptisms on January 1st).

A *Baptism Preparation Session* takes place on the third Sunday of each month in anticipation of the celebration of the Sacrament. Parents in the Cathedral Parish are obligated to participate. The session is open to all of our neighbor parishes and to godparents as well. Parents are encouraged to participate during pregnancy, if at all possible. Please call the Parish Office - 215-561-1313 - to register for the Baptism Preparation Session.



Concerts at the
Cathedral Basilica

Come and Experience
Great Music in the Cathedral



Christmas at the Cathedral Basilica
TODAY, 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

20th Annual Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 3:00 PM

Location: 18th & Race, adjacent to the Cathedral.

Carols by the students of St. Francis Xavier School

The Power of One, March For Life 2017

January 27, 2017 - Washington, D.C

"The mission of the March for Life is to provide all Americans with a place to testify to the beauty of life and the dignity of each human person..." Additionally, the March for Life Conference will take place Jan. 26. For details on the March and the Conference visit marchforlife.org/

Cardinal Foley Lecture Series

Monday January 30, 2017, 7 pm

Speaker: Gregory Erlandson,

Director & Editor-in-Chief of Catholic News Service

Location: Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary,

St. John Vianney Hall Auditorium

Archbishop's Lecture Series

Monday, February 13, 2017, 7 pm

Speaker: Mary Rice Hasson,

Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington,

DC. Location: Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary,

St. John Vianney Hall Auditorium

Man-Up Philly: Men's Spirituality Conference

Saturday, March 4, 2017 - 8:30am-5pm

Come be a part of this special experience and stand with your Brothers as true Men of God.

Speakers: Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Ph.D., Kevin Reilly,

Damon Clarke Owens, Mark Forrest

Location: St. Joseph's University, Hagan Arena, Phila.

More info & registration: manupphilly.com/

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



LIVING STEWARDSHIP NOW

The Lord is Near

Historical records indicate that the birthday of our Savior was not celebrated in any significant way for at least the first three centuries of the church's existence. Nowadays, Christmas is considered the most important holiday in the year, and for reasons that have gone far beyond its true religious significance. Many of our most treasured customs, such as the decorated tree, greeting cards, and the exchange of Christmas presents, only date back to just over a century ago. Christmas has become more complicated ever since. Now, with changing times, many of us have begun to refocus not only *why* we celebrate Christmas, but *how*, so as to be in harmony with the meaning of Christ's birth. Saint Paul assures us that "The Lord is near" (Philippians 4:5) and urges us to stop our worrying, knowing that God will bring the gift of peace to our hearts, a peace beyond human understanding. Like the crowds surrounding John the Baptist in today's Gospel, we may say, "What should we do?" (Luke 3:10). John's answer holds true today: Share with others, act justly, and be satisfied with what we have. Only then can "Emmanuel" truly be, as the name means, "God with us."

Living Stewardship Now

Balance time spent Christmas shopping with efforts for the less fortunate.

- Buy gifts for "Angel Tree" families.
- Match each gift that you buy for family or friends with a contribution to a charity in the same amount.
- Give charitable donations as gifts in the recipient's name.

Copyright © 2009, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.



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.