

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2014

**"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news
that will cause great joy for all the people."**

Luke 2:10



Nov. 29, Saturday, Weekday

12:05 Arturo Giacomucci

5:15 Doris Whitman

Nov. 30, First Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People

9:30 Wiley-Gilligan families

11:00 Antonio DeMarsico

12:30 Esther Torres

6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dec. 1, Monday, Advent Weekday

7:15 The Sherry family

12:05 Joseph A. Pino

Dec. 2, Tuesday, Advent Weekday

7:15 James F. Kilcur, Jr.

12:05 Dorothy Ann Cronk

Dec. 3, Wednesday, St. Francis Xavier

7:15 James Kilcur, Jr.

12:05 Catherine Rocks

Dec. 4, Thursday, Advent Weekday

7:15 Kathy Goral

12:05 Anne Gallagher

Dec. 5, Friday, Advent Weekday

7:15 The Sherry Family

12:05 Anthony S. Masi

Dec. 6, Saturday, Advent Weekday, St. Nicholas

12:05 Alfred D'Ercole & family

5:15 Mary Stanko

Dec. 7, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People

9:30 Lena Quici

11:00 Eduardo Osberg

12:30 Gregorio Gonzalez

6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dear Parishioners,

This is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new liturgical year. The Church invites all of us to observe the four weeks of Advent with a *focused* anticipation of the Birth of the Lord. Participation in our Parish Forty Hours over the next few days is a fine start of Advent for all of us. Making a good confession during Advent provides for a most fitting preparation for Christmas. Please see the schedule for the Forty Hours and Confessions for Advent elsewhere in this Sunday's Parish Bulletin. I also encourage you to consider taking some additional time to read the Bible, to come to daily Mass, and perhaps start the Advent Wreath custom in your home.

Our Parish Evangelization Team met for the first time on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 and developed an initial plan to aid parishioners with a better understanding of the Faith and a sense of belonging to the Parish. We will immediately begin the practice of a follow up contact with newly registered parishioners by the team. The team is also organizing an outreach to a significant number of registered parishioners, under fifty years of age, with plans for get-togethers and faith formation. The Parish Finance and Pastoral Councils reconvened on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 to review their purposes and plan for 2015. Look for more information in future Parish Bulletins on the Evangelization Team and the Councils.

Next Sunday, December 7, 2014 after the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass, the families of our parish with children in area Catholic elementary and high schools will come together in the Neumann Room to meet and get to know one another. If you are one of these families and have not yet contacted the Parish Office with your response for this meeting, please do so. I, along with our parish priests, am very much looking forward to this gathering.

Next Monday, December 8, 2014, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is the Advent Holy Day of Obligation. Please see the schedule of Holy Day Masses elsewhere in the Parish Bulletin.

God bless all of you,
Father Dennis Gill



The Sanctuary Lamp Candle burns this week in the Cathedral Basilica


For Joseph Borek

Request of Kathleen Cassidy



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.

THE ADVENT GIVING TREE 2014



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 Mercy Hospice, Women of Hope, St. John's Hospice 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. Drop your wrapped gift or gifts with the identifying tag on the gift itself by the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2014. 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.

ANNUAL EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION
PARISH FORTY HOURS IN THE BASILICA
HOLY COMMUNION: HEAVEN'S FOOD
FOR THE FAMILY

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2014,
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

11:00 AM Solemn Mass and Exposition
of the Most Blessed Sacrament

*Exposition continues for adoration
until before the evening Mass.*

*Confessions will be heard
beginning at 5:30 PM*

6:30 PM Mass

**MONDAY AND TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 1 AND 2, 2014
ADVENT WEEKDAYS**

7:15 AM Mass in the Cathedral Chapel

*Confessions will be heard
beginning at 11:30 AM.*

12:05 PM Mass with Exposition
of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

*Exposition continues for adoration
through to Benediction.*

7:00 PM Evening Prayer with Benediction of the
Most Blessed Sacrament.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

If you are a single woman between age 25 and 40 interested in joining with other women to pray the Rosary to discern your vocation, please email vocationprayergroup@gmail.com for additional information. Thank you!



Please remember these parishioners and friends of the Cathedral Parish in your prayers:

*Anna Marie Burgio, Jeanine Tingeter, Bobby Mitchell, Shirley King, Thomas Sabol, Tom Fiordimondo, Doris Davison, Nancy Tomaszewski, Therese & Bob Black, Robert & Marguerite Grant, Andrés Castillo, Antoinette Gonnella, Bryon Hoch, Ryley June Nazario, Kim Whybrew, Josephina Bianco, Richard J. Mott, Charlotte McLaughlin, Patrick Gallagher, Sheila Kendall, Shahidah Kendall, Ralph Berarducci, Winifred McKeon, Teddy Beaver, Robert Honish, Molly Sujan, Edward Endrich, Nicole Carey, Ann Reilly, Mary Ellen Foyle, Bernard Thompson, Larry Ross, Samada family, John DeMelas, Nick Capozio, Linda Brigandi, Dottie Bianci, Alexia Mervine, Sarah Murnghan, Pauline Cope, Ted Rice, Rita Borsaris, Bernie Brill, Molly Sujan, Linda Brigandi, Elizabeth Grinder, Joe Capozio, Linda Watson, Michael Roman, Diane Motley, Jason Toomey, Brother Thomas Chadwick, Nick Pella, Bryan Anderson 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.***

AN INVITATION TO ALL HIGH
SCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Students,

The purpose of my letter is twofold: to make you aware that you are always welcome at the Cathedral Parish and that we would really like to get to know you personally. So to begin this process, we cordially invite you to attend the 11 AM Mass next Sunday, December 7th. Following the Mass there will be a social held in the Neumann Room (entrance at the rear of the Basilica).

This will be an informal opportunity to greet, meet and to socialize. We hope you find warmth and hospitality here. As you become more acquainted with us, you may find an area in which to share your time and talent with us. We invite you to meet other families from schools across our area and share some new experiences as families during the great season of Advent. The success of our parish depends on the work and cooperation of all of us.

Light refreshments will be provided. Please call Carol Ruddick or Father Angelo to RSVP. The phone number of the parish is 215-561-1313 or email: info@cathedralphila.org

We are really looking forward to seeing you! Please know that our door is always open to you.

God bless you,

Fr. Angelo J. Hernandez
Parochial Vicar

**FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION
OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Friday, December 5, 2014

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Cathedral Chapel

The Most Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration before the 12:05 PM Mass.

Please come to adore the Lord!

Confessions will be available on the First Friday beginning at 11:00 AM.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BASILICA

Nov. 30 Holy Hour at 5:30 PM with blessing of the World Meeting of Family icons

Dec. 1 Forty Hours - 7 PM Evening Prayer

Dec. 2 Forty Hours - 7 PM Evening Prayer

Dec. 2 Augustine's Brothers, Neumann Room,
6:30 PM

Dec. 3 Charismatic Prayer Group, Neumann
Room, 6 PM

Dec. 4 Catechetical Session, Neumann Room,
7 PM

Dec. 6 Archdiocesan Girl/Boy Choir, Chapel Hall
9:30 AM

Dec. 6/7 Religious Retirement Collection

Monday, December 8, 2014

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary
Patroness of the United States of America**

*December 8th, the Immaculate Conception,
is always a Holy Day
with the obligation to participate at Mass.*

Masses for December 8th:

7:15 AM in the Cathedral Chapel

12:05 PM in the Basilica

12:35 PM in the Cathedral Chapel

5:15 PM in the Cathedral Chapel

*Confessions will be heard
beginning at 11:30 AM in the Basilica.*

The Parish Office is closed for the Holy Day.

**CATECHETICAL SESSION FOR ADULTS
THIS WEEK**

The Sacraments

Thursday, December 4, 2014, 7:00-8:30 PM
Neumann Room
(entrance at the rear of the Basilica)

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 seeking more information on the reception of the Sacraments or assisting as a sponsor, is invited to call the Parish Office at 215-561-1313.

**ADVENT CONFSSION
SCHEDULE
IN THE BASILICA**

*Sundays of Advent:
9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:30 PM
in the Basilica*

*Weekdays of Advent:
11:30 AM Monday through Friday
4:15 PM on Saturday*

*Monday, December 22; Tuesday De-
cember 23; and Wednesday,
December 24: 11:00 AM*

Tuesday, December 23: 7:00 PM

*Resources for the Sacrament of Pen-
ance and Reconciliation
can be found on the website of the
Office for Divine Worship,
[http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/
sacred-liturgy/archdiocesan-
guidelines/](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/archdiocesan-guidelines/)*

30 de Noviembre del 2014

**Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo,
Rey del Universo**

LECTURAS CICLO B

Primera lectura: *Isaías 63, 16-17. 19b; 64, 2-7.* El profeta suplica al Señor que venga a salvar a su pueblo

Segunda lectura: *1 Corintios 1, 3-9.* Dios nos ha llamado a participar de la vida de su Hijo, Jesús.

Evangelio: *Marcos 13, 33-37.* Los cristianos debemos vivir siempre despiertos, pues no sabemos cuándo vendrá el Señor.



Readings of the Week

Monday: December 1
Isaiah 2:1-5/Psalm 122:1-9
Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday: December 2
Isaiah 11:1-10/Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday: December 3
Isaiah 25:6-10a/Psalm 23:1-6
Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: December 4
Isaiah 26:1-6/Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday: December 5
Isaiah 29:17-24/Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday: December 6
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26/Psalm 147:1-6
Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: December 7
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11/Psalm 85:9-14/
2 Peter 3:8-14/Mark 1:1-8

WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS.....

Reflecting on the words of any Pope helps us to grow in our faith—after all, he is our shepherd, the one who calls us on as one body in Christ. We will offer short excerpts taken from Pope Francis' addresses and homilies which will reflect the themes that we can expect to hear again and again during his pontificate.....

Faith Lights Our Way

There is an urgent need...to see once again that faith is a light, for once the flame of faith dies out, all other lights begin to dim. The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating *every aspect* of human existence. For a light to be this powerful, it cannot come from ourselves; it must come from a more primordial source: in a word, it must come from God. Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love, a love which precedes us and upon which we can lean for security and for building our lives. Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see; we realize that it contains a great promise of fulfillment, and that a vision of the future opens up before us. Faith, received from God as a supernatural gift, becomes a light for our way, guiding our journey through time.



2014 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION FOR PRIESTS

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with Archbishop Chaput at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary on Monday, December 1, for the 2014 Day of Sanctification for Priests. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese, especially this weekend and Monday.

Basilica Tours



A guided tour of the Basilica is available **after the Sunday 11 AM Mass**. Please meet in front of the side altar of the Sacred Heart, which is to the right of the Main Altar.

Living Stewardship Now

JESUS IS THE REASON

In today's world Christmas starts at Thanksgiving and ends on December 25, but the Church emphasizes this time as Advent, the season of expectation, when we prepare our hearts and lives for the Lord's coming at Christmas. You may already have such customs in your household as an Advent wreath, a Jesse tree, a manger scene, or special devotions. A German tradition called *Kristkindl* ("Christ child") involves a family passing a bowl around with each person taking a rolled-up slip of paper with a family member's name on it. For the rest of Advent that person is your *Kristkindl*, and you do a good deed for them every day, but in secret! Even young children can participate. You prepare to serve Christ by serving your *Kristkindl*: pray for them, save money to send to a good cause in their name, donate gifts to a shelter, do extra chores, adopt a needy family.

Living Stewardship Now

Drop something you usually do at this time of year but do not enjoy. Choose an Advent custom and make it part of your daily routine.

Tithing Online

You can make weekly, monthly or quarterly contributions or other donations on-line, either from your personal checking account or a debit/credit card. Go to our new website: www.cathedralphila.org and click on "Make A Donation" and follow the instructions.

One option is to manually make weekly or monthly donations or you can have your credit/debit card or checking account automatically debited each week/month.

We hope this service will provide convenience and ease to our parishioners and visitors. Thank you for your truly generous support during this difficult financial time and for your continued commitment in our Parish!