

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2014

"Christmas is fast approaching. And now that Christ has aroused our seasonal expectations, he'll soon fulfill them all!"

St. Augustine



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

Dec. 8, Monday, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary/Holy Day of Obligation

7:15 Pro Populo - For the People

12:05 Pro Populo - For the People

12:35 Pro Populo - For the People

5:15 Pro Populo - For the People

Dec. 9, Tuesday, St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

7:15 The Sherry Family

12:05 Donald C. Marino

Dec. 10, Wednesday, Advent Weekday

7:15 James Kilcur, Jr.

12:05 Nicholas Daniel Schanz

Dec. 11, Thursday, St. Damasus I

7:15 Ian Joseph Swezcak

12:05 Nancy Calabree

Dec. 12, Friday, Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:15 The Sherry Family

12:05 Bernice S. Horcher

Dec. 13, Saturday, Saint Lucy

12:05 Benedict Victor Arul

5:15 Pfizenmayer-Linaugh families

Dec. 14, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People

9:30 Arthur Quici

11:00 Peppino DiFonzo

12:30 Paulino Zambrano

6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dear Parishioners,

Tomorrow, December 8th, is the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary, under this title, is the patroness of the United States of America. This December Holy Day of Obligation reminds all of us that Mary is a figure for Advent. Mary was conceived without any stain of sin to be the Mother of our divine Savior. We come to her as we observe Advent—especially with prayer and penance—that we may have a genuine experience of the Lord coming into our hearts and lives. The Mass schedule for this Holy Day can be found elsewhere in the Parish Bulletin.

In addition to our Blessed Mother as a sign of Advent Time, the Church proposes another sign for us to consider. The Prophet Isaiah is this sign. In a remarkable way this Prophet announces the coming of the Lord that the Church considers all throughout the four weeks of Advent—the coming of the Lord at the end of time and of our lives, the coming of the Lord in his Birth in history, and the coming of the Lord now in our lives. At the same time the Prophet announces the coming of the Lord, he exhorts us to prepare for this coming with the reform of our ways according the ways of the Lord. The Liturgy of the Word of Mass all through Advent makes use of the Prophet Isaiah to make ready the Church, each of us, for the coming of the Lord. I suggest during the days of Advent, in the midst of the rush of this pre-Christmas period, that you find some precious time each day to read reflectively the Prophet Isaiah in your home. This reading could then be followed by some meditative prayer on your own desire to be more prepared for the many comings of the Lord commemorated this Advent.

This Sunday, our second collection is for the *Retirement Fund for Religious*. I thank you for your generosity to this collection. Let us also pray especially for all the retired religious, especially our Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Cathedral Parish, who have served us so faithfully for so many years.

God bless all of you,
Father Dennis Gill



The Sanctuary Lamp Candle burns this week in the Cathedral Basilica for

Alexa Digorgio

At the request of Marnie Uy

The Sanctuary Lamp Candle burns this week in the Cathedral Chapel for

Darlene Inez Branch Smith

At the request of Wendy & Radovan Jacovic



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.

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



CONCERTS AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA

COME AND EXPERIENCE GREAT MUSIC IN THE CATHEDRAL

Christmas on Logan Square with the Philadelphia Singers

Saturday, Dec. 13 at 8:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 PM

Tickets: Front \$40

General \$25

For more information and to Purchase Tickets visit:

www.CathedralPhilaConcerts.org



FOOD/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. Also needed are men's socks, shirts and small individual toiletries.

Thank you for your continued generosity, God bless you.



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

Patrisha Bollinger, 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 Suján, 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 Suján, Linda Brigandi, Elizabeth Grinder, Joe Capozio, Linda Watson, Michael Roman, Diane Motley, Jason Toomey, Brother Thomas Chadwick, 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.

**ADVENT CONFESSION
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 Of-
fice for Divine Worship,
[http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/
sacred-liturgy/archdiocesan-
guidelines/](http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/archdiocesan-guidelines/)*

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 will be closed for the Holy Day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BASILICA

Dec. 6/7 Religious Retirement Collection

Dec. 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - see this page for Masses

Dec. 9 Filming of Spanish Mass in Basilica, 6 PM

Dec. 9 Augustine's Brothers, Neumann Room,
6:30 PM

Dec. 10 Charismatic Prayer Group, Neumann
Room, 6 PM


Dec. 11 Catechetical Session, Neumann Rm/7 PM

Dec. 13 Cathedral Christmas Concert - 8 PM

Dec. 13 Girls Choir rehearsal/Chapel Hall/9:30AM

Dec. 14 Cathedral Christmas Concert - 3 PM

**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 offer service to 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.

**CATECHETICAL SESSION FOR ADULTS
THIS WEEK**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Thursday, December 11, 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.

Baptisms and 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. As of this January 2015, the celebration of Baptism at the Cathedral Parish will take 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.

Also, beginning this January 2015, a *Baptism Preparation Session* will take 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 to register for the Baptism Preparation Session. It will take place in the Neumann Room behind the Cathedral.

7 de Diciembre del 2014

Domingo segundo de Adviento

LECTURAS CICLO B

Primera lectura: *Isaías 40, 1-5. 9-11.* El profeta anuncia con alegría la vuelta de los desterrados. Dios restablece la amistad con su pueblo. Es una invitación a corresponder a ese reencuentro.

Segunda lectura: *2 Pedro 3, 8-14.* El cristiano está llamado a apresurar con una vida santa los cielos nuevos y la tierra nueva donde reinará la justicia.

Evangelio: *Marcos 1, 1-8.* Como san Juan el Bautista, el cristiano está llamado a abrir el camino a Cristo, con su palabra y su testimonio de vida



Readings of the Week

Monday: December 8

Genesis 3:9-15, 20/Psalm 98:1, 2-4
Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday: December 9

Isaiah 40:1-11/Psalm 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13
Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday: December 10

Isaiah 40:25-31/Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10
Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday: December 11

Isaiah 41:13-20/Psalm 145:1, 9-13ab
Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: December 12

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Judith 13:18bcde, 19
Luke 1:39-47

Saturday: December 13

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: December 14

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11/Luke 1:46-50, 53-54
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/John 1:6-8, 19-28

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.....

The Beatitude of Faith

Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). So Jesus said, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed" (20:29); and who were those who believed without seeing? Other disciples, other men and women of Jerusalem who, on the testimony of the apostles and the women, believed even though they had not met the Risen Jesus. This is a very important word about faith; we can call it the *beatitudo of faith*. Blessed are those who have not seen but have believed: this is the beatitude of faith! In every epoch and in every place, blessed are those who, on the strength of the word of God proclaimed in the Church and witnessed by Christians, believe that Jesus Christ is the love of God incarnate, Mercy incarnate. And this applies to each one of you!



Sound Doctrine: Discovering Advent Through Modern Music

Mother Boniface Spirituality Center will offer this Advent program on **Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7 PM**. This is a Young Adult program for 20's and 30's. There will be an evening filled with music, activity, reflection and prayer. Free will offering. For more information please call 267-350-1835.

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

THE SOUND OF STILLNESS

Can you hear him above the busyness and noise? John the Baptist says we must change. A great light will expose our sinfulness and burn up what we cannot hide. We cannot be complacent. We must change, but how? Centuries ago a young man grew up in northern Africa. He received an excellent education, but fell in with a sect called the Manichees, who encouraged evil living. He prayed to God to change him, "but not yet." Finally, he faced his own emptiness and powerlessness and was quiet enough to hear the "still small voice." God said, "Take up and read." The scriptures fell open to the Letter to the Romans (13:13-14). His heart changed. His name is Augustine—a bishop, great Christian theologian, and doctor of the Church. Advent is a time to quiet down and listen so we don't miss the personal message that God has for us.

Living Stewardship Now.....

Spend some time in a quiet place. Use the silence to ask what God is waiting to tell you this Advent.

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 to our Parish!



The Sunday Collection for the weekend of 11/23/14 was \$8,247; 11/30 was \$8,271. Thank you for your generous support! We rely upon the sacrificial generosity of our parishioners and visitors. -5- 062 cathd