



Saturday December 3
 5:30 pm Intention of Sr. Patricia Flynn -
 65th Jubilee as Sister of Charity

Sunday December 4 *Second Sunday of Advent*
 7:30 am Harriet Malvasi
 9:00 am Irene Phelan and our Parishioners
 10:30 am Theresa Westerman
 12:00 pm Dr. Rodolfo Narag and
 the Mother of Rustica Doria

Monday December 5
 6:45 am Michele Spadone and James McCauley

Tuesday December 6
 6:45 am Natalie Biagi

Wednesday December 7 *St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of
 the Church*
 6:45 am Porfiria Bautista

Thursday December 8 *Immaculate Conception*
 6:45 am Maria Fantauzzi
 12:00 pm Joan Kakareka
 7:30 pm Charles Havlik

Friday December 9
 6:45 am Catherine Banks

Saturday December 10
 8:00 am Rev. Garvey Meade
 5:30 pm Daniel Shuhet

Sunday December 11 *Third Sunday of Advent*
 7:30 am Our Parishioners
 9:00 am Elsie Selvaratnam
 10:30 am Sergio and Noemi Wong and
 Elaine Foster
 12:00 pm Dr. Rodolfo Narag and
 Louis and Alfred Tuzzi

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, especially Kristin Petrasek, Connie Ingrassia, Christopher Fraclose, Kevin Cunniff, Arline Forte, Nancy Huber, Gene Caulfield, Saskia Kane, Joy Skubic, Edward Sotelo, Sr. Bernadette Weller, Robert Walsh, Jack Boyland, Christa Fairclough, Bob Noonan, Martha Jones, Ramona Colao, Frank Razzano, Louise Risely, Karen Lang, Benjamin LeFebvre, Lisa Gallagher, and Shannon Halm.

STEWARDSHIP

Collection for November 29, 2015	\$ 7,667
MASS ATTENDANCE	751
Sunday, November 27, 2016	
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 8,246
ParishPay	940
Total	\$ 9,186
MASS ATTENDANCE	783
God bless you for your generosity.	

**Scripture Readings
 December 11, 2016
 Third Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
 Isaiah tells us that when Christ comes, the weak will be made strong, the deaf will hear, the blind will see, and, above all, "sorrow and mourning will flee."

Second Reading: James 5:7-10
 As the farmer waits patiently through winter and spring for the "yield of the soil" so, too, must we wait patiently for the coming of the Messiah.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11
 While in prison, John sends a messenger to Jesus to ask, "Are you He who is to come or do we look for another?" Jesus replies by citing the miracles he has performed for the blind, the deaf, and the crippled. He concludes by identifying John as the messenger He has sent to prepare the way.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
*is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception,
 a Holy Day of Obligation.*
Masses will be 6:45 am, 12:00 noon and 7:30 pm

**The Advent candle burns
 in memory of Martin P. McCormack**

DECEMBER 10/11 CELEBRANT SCHEDULE

5:30 pm	Fr. Edward Seton Fittin
7:30 am	Fr. Jared Brogan
9:00 am	Fr. Jared Brogan
10:30 am	Fr. Jim Termyna
12:00 pm	Fr. Jared Brogan

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Next weekend we welcome Sister Monica Wheeler who will speak to us about women and men religious who are retired. Each year the diocese has a special collection to support these women and men who have given their lives in so many ways to serve God and the Church. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and kindness.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 5	
Scripture Study	1:00 - 2:30 pm
Cookie Baking (grades 6-8)	3:30 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday, December 6	
Moms & Tots	9:30 - 11:00 am
Pageant Decorations (grades 7-10)	6:30 pm
Wednesday, December 7	
Home Study check (grades 7-8)	4:00 - 6:00 pm
Thursday, December 8	
Choir Practice	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Saturday, December 10	
First Reconciliation	11:00 am

From the Desk of Fr. Jared

We are now fully involved in Advent. Throughout this season I hope that we can grow closer to God who comes to us in every moment. We usually associate works of charity, prayer, and penance in Lent. Advent is also a time where we are given opportunities to practice charity, prayer, and penance. Included here is a meditation that might be helpful for our prayer this week.

We all ache for God, and we wait...

*The addict in the alley behind the Cathedral waits:
for a God who will come and remove all that
enslaves him...*

*The single mother waits:
for a day when she no longer has to work 12 hours,
a night when she can sleep eight,
a life when she'll finally know the kids will be ok.*

*The soldier in a ditch waits:
for a morning when there are no more explosions of
IEDs,
and every look is not feared as the precursor to an
assault,
and you don't have to bury your new best friends.*

*The old man in the nursing home waits:
for the day he will no longer be alone,
when pain will no longer be his most constant
companion,
and when he can once again rest in the embrace of
her whom he loved.*

*The prisoner on death row waits:
for a place where he will no longer be seen as evil,
for a life that makes sense,
for a time when love can be given and received,
for the coming of a God who will love him.*

*The investment banker waits:
for the day when he's not gripped by the fear
that he's about to lose everything,
for the day when he can count his value
in the quality of his love rather than the size of his
profit.*

*The little child waits
within her mother's womb:
for a world that will welcome her,
and parents that will love her,
and a country who will protect her.*

*"Why do you let us wander and harden our hearts?"
Yet he waits on that altar, to feed us with himself.
We cry out: "Let us see your face and we will be
saved!"*

*Yet he waits for us in the poor, the sick, and the
elderly, ready to console our frightened spirits.*

*We wait in joyful hope. The part of us that is afraid to
confess that secret sin. The part of us that doesn't
think it's possible to forgive what 'that one' did or
that God could really forgive me. The part of us that
cries in the middle of the night. The part which feels
empty and alone. The part that's overwhelmed and
confused. The part which amidst all the din and
doubt, waits...waits in silence for the coming of our
Lord Jesus Christ upon a cloud in all his glory.*

*Get ready my brothers and sisters. Get ready! Go to
confession, celebrate the Eucharist, do good works,
and pray! Feed the poor. Go visit the lonely. Find the
one you've not yet forgiven and call him or her right
now.*

*Make your heart a manger to receive your king, for
he is coming. He is coming very soon!*

(edited reflection of Msgr. James P. Moroney)

Peace,
Fr. Jared

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2016

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
Monday, December 12 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Christmas Eve Masses, Saturday, December 24

4:00pm Fr. Jared Brogan
Children's Choir, Cantor, Instrumentalists

6:00pm Fr. Jared Brogan
Cantor, Instrumentalists

10:00pm Fr. Jared Brogan
Choir, Cantor, Instrumentalists

Caroling will begin 15 minutes before each Mass.

Christmas Day Masses, Sunday, December 25

7:30am Fr. Edward Seton Fittin *Cantor, organist*

9:30am Fr. Jim Termyna *Cantor, organist*

11:30am Fr. Jared Brogan *Cantor, organist*

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Saturday, December 31 5:30 pm

Sunday, January 1 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00



NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

UPCOMING DATES:

December 5 – 6th – 8th graders making cookies
3:30 – 5:00.

December 6 – 7th – 10th graders making decorations
for the Christmas Pageant 6:30- 7:30.

December 10 – 2nd graders will make their
First Reconciliation at 11:00 am

December 12 -15 – last week of Religious Education
classes before Christmas break. We will be decorating
cookies to send to Nana's Gift to support women and
children in shelters.

December 19 – Christmas Pageant practice 4:00-5:30

December 20 – Christmas Pageant at 7:30 pm

First Reconciliation Preparation:

The second graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, December 10th at 11:00. Please join me in praying for all the children. They reviewed the parable of the Lost Sheep and made sheep in their Religious Education classes. We have put them in the church by Jesus the Good Shepherd and the cantor podium. Please take a minute to admire the beautiful "sheep".



St. Catherine's Annual Christmas Pageant

This year's pageant will take place on **Tuesday, December 20th at 7:30 pm**. All 1st through 4th graders are invited to participate. Please contact the Religious Education to sign up. Children must attend the practice on Monday, December 19 from 4:00-5:30.

We also welcome older children and adults to assist. **Grades 7 through 10** are invited to come **December 6 at 6:30** to make decorations for the Christmas Pageant. Parents are needed to help at the practice and on the night of the pageant. Please contact us if you can help.

Advent Wreath Candles, Poinsettia Plants & Decorations

This year we continue our beautiful custom of memorializing the Christmas flowers and decorations for the church. If you would like to make a donation for a poinsettia plant or a wreath for Christmas, you may do so by using the envelopes in the church vestibule or in your envelope packet. You may also make a donation toward the candles on our Advent Wreath. The cost is \$100 per candle. You will be able to remember a loved one (living or deceased) or give thanks for a special blessing in this way during the Season of Advent Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to make a donation towards the candles.

GIVING TREE GIFTS ARE DUE BACK THIS WEEKEND, DECEMBER 4. If you took a tag and cannot fulfill the request, it is important that you return the tag. Straight and Narrow gifts **should not** be wrapped. St. Agnes gifts **should** be wrapped. Please tape the gift tag to your gifts for both groups.

ANNUAL WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT EXCHANGE 7:00 pm, Thursday, December 15

All women are invited to our annual Christmas Gathering! The evening begins with Benediction at 7 pm in the church and continues in the parish center for refreshments (BYOB) and our traditional ornament "SWAP". Bring a wrapped ornament limited to \$10 and partake in a game of laughter and "swapping". Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule. If you can help with refreshments, please call Barbara Buck at 973-263-1758 or Whitney DuBose at 973-586-2777

FRANCISCAN MYSTERY PLAYERS NEED YOU!

The Franciscan Mystery Players are recruiting student performers (grades 9-12) to participate in their Lenten presentation "*The Way of the Cross*" which will be performed at approximately 10 churches throughout Northern New Jersey. The group is also seeking additional adult advisors. Rehearsals begin in January at St. Catherine of Siena. Time commitment is most Friday and Sunday evenings from January through Good Friday. It is an excellent way to grow closer to God while having fun with a great group of teens! No experience is necessary. Please contact Anne Marie Pikor at [973-876-3440](tel:973-876-3440) for more information and any questions regarding earning Confirmation hours. (www.mysteryplay.org)

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

St. Catherine's is in need of one person to join a team of volunteers to wash/iron altar linens. Volunteers are only scheduled approximately once every 2 months. If you can help, please contact Eileen Atkinson at 973-627-8169, eileenatkinson@verizon.net

Save the Date! Save the Date! ST. CATHERINE'S WINTER CARNIVAL

Games for all ages!

Treats * Fun * Entertainment

Saturday, January 7th 3:00-5:00 pm

Family Mass to follow

Tickets \$5 per family

CLASSIC CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

Our Lady of Mount Carmel School is hosting an open house on December 7 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

For more information, please call: 973-334-2777