



**Saturday December 10**  
 5:30 pm Daniel Shuhet

**Sunday December 11** *Third Sunday of Advent*  
 7:30 am Rosemary Haas and 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

**Monday December 12** *Our Lady of Guadalupe*  
 6:45 am Private Intention

**Tuesday December 13** *St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*  
 6:45 am Rose Razzano

**Wednesday December 14** *St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
 6:45 am Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday December 15**  
 6:45 am Gino Ferrari

**Friday December 16**  
 6:45 am George Murray and Patricia Carroll

**Saturday December 17**  
 8:00 am Nicholas Pazzaglia  
 4:30 pm\* John F. Gillespie and Richard Belson  
 \*Note time change

**Sunday December 18** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
 7:30 am James McElroy and Our Parishioners  
 9:00 am Marie Cardone and Bernard Kelly  
 10:30 am Eric Abrahamsen and Theresa Westerman  
 12:00 pm Dr. Rodolfo Narag, Dominic Carton, and Madeleine Solomon

**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 December 6, 2015	\$ 9,471
MASS ATTENDANCE	776
<b>Sunday, December 4, 2016</b>	
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 8,113
ParishPay	925
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,038</b>
Collection for Diocesan Assessment	\$ 2,023
MASS ATTENDANCE	706
God bless you for your generosity.	

**Scripture Readings  
 December 18, 2016  
 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14**

Ahaz receives from Isaiah a prophecy that he will be successful in war and is urged to ask for a sign that the prophecy is true. The sign is, "The virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel."

**Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7**

Paul greets the Romans by pointing out that Jesus is the Christ who was promised to them in Scripture. He, Paul, is the apostle favored with the task of spreading the name of Christ to all.

**Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24**

In a brief, straightforward, simple narrative, Matthew recounts the events leading to Jesus' birth. He details the appearance of the angel in a dream to Joseph and stresses that "All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophets."

**The Advent candles burn in memory of  
 Martin P. McCormack  
 and  
 Theresa Kenworthy**

**Food collection for the Fr. English Food  
 Pantry is next weekend, December 17 and 18**

**DECEMBER 17/18 CELEBRANT SCHEDULE**

4:30 pm*	Fr. Jared Brogan
7:30 am	Fr. Edward Seton Fittin
9:00 am	Fr. Jim Termyna
10:30 am	Fr. Jared Brogan
12:00 pm	Fr. Jared Brogan

**\*Note Saturday Mass time change**

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Monday, December 12**

Scripture Study	1:00 - 2:30 pm
Family Fun Committee Meeting	7:00 pm
Reconciliation and Adoration	7:00 - 8:00 pm

**Tuesday, December 13**

Moms & Tots	9:30 - 11:00 am
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**Thursday, December 15**

Choir Practice	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Women's Benediction and Ornament Exchange	7:00 pm

**Saturday, December 17**

Daniel Rodriguez Concert	8:00 pm
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## From the Desk of Fr. Jared

The season of Advent highlights different characters in scripture for our reflection. The prophetic voice of Isaiah in the Old Testament is the most popular and continuous voice of Advent. Hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah prophesied about the coming of the Lord and spoke about a "voice crying out in the desert." The second and third Sunday of Advent highlights this "voice" in the person of John the Baptizer. The other prominent character of Advent is our Blessed Mother. This past week we celebrated her Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States. On December 12<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas. On December 17<sup>th</sup> the liturgy turns its focus to the first coming of Jesus and highlights the infancy narratives in which Mary is prominent.

In paragraph #286 of his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis writes:

*"Mary was able to turn a stable into a home for Jesus, with poor swaddling clothes and an abundance of love...As a true mother, she walks at our side, she shares our struggles and she constantly surrounds us with God's love. As she did with Juan Diego (story of Guadalupe), Mary offers us maternal comfort and love, and whispers in our ear: "Let your heart not be troubled... Am I not here, who am your Mother?""*

I encourage you to read the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Those apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1531 in Mexico had a deep impact on the evangelization of the Americas. Today we live in a world that talks more about God rather than to God. We debate about faith and religion, but we do not pray. We live in a world that too easily ignores actions and ideologies that promote death and not life: abortion, euthanasia, genocide, wars, etc. In a world that is losing the sense of the supernatural, we need to know that Jesus is our Savior and that He has been given to us through Mary, his mother and ours. Let us turn to Mary these weeks with our deepest problems, worries, concerns, and questions. She listens to us with a "maternal comfort and love."

Peace,  
Fr. Jared

*We welcome our recently baptized new member in the church to our parish community:*

**Connor Ross Kalbermatten**  
son of Adam and Ashlee



## NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### UPCOMING DATES:

**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

**January 3-6** – Religious Education classes resume

### **ST. CATHERINE'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**



This year's pageant will take place on **Tuesday, December 20 at 7:30 pm**. We invite all to come and rejoice.

### **Save the Date! Save the Date!**

St. Catherine of Siena

**WINTER CARNIVAL**

Games for all ages!

Treats \* Fun \* Entertainment

**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 3:00 - 5:00 pm**

Family Mass to Follow

Tickets \$5 per family

### **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



***Our annual Breakfast with Santa was a jolly success! A special thank you to Jerry Napolitano and the Knights of Columbus for providing breakfast; to our very own Santa, Rich Westerman; and to all those who helped.***

### GIVING TREE

Our parish family has once again responded to the Giving Tree appeal with outstanding generosity. Together with Kim Sgro's group, "Nana's Gifts", St. Catherine's was able to provide much appreciated gifts for St. Agnes' Parish children and Straight and Narrow in Paterson. Thank you for helping make Christmas more joyful for those less fortunate! A special thank you to Joni Cabassa and her committee who sorted and bagged all the gifts.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *If you have gifts that have not yet been returned, please find an alternate charity or contact St. Agnes or Straight and Narrow directly. We can no longer accept them.*

### 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](http://www.mysteryplay.org))



### *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.

### LAST CALL: DANIEL RODRIGUEZ CONCERT IS THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17!

Daniel Rodriguez, the Brooklyn born, now-retired police officer, helped bring the country an uplifting spirit of promise and hope with his stirring rendition of "God Bless America" after the 2001 World Trade Center terrorist attacks. Formal voice training began at an early age, with Daniel's first recital in Carnegie Hall at age 16. Singing has been his life-long passion, however it didn't always pay the bills. He worked at a series of jobs until joining the NYPD at age 30, where he became known as "The Singing Policeman".

September 11, 2001, Officer Rodriguez was driving to work when the first plane hit the World Trade Center. Arriving at the site as a first-responder, he witnessed the destruction of both towers, nearly losing his own life. At "Prayer for America" in Yankee Stadium his inspirational voice gave hope and strength to a grieving nation. His music career had turned into a calling.

Daniel's philanthropic and patriotic efforts have been recognized with numerous honors, such as the USO Lifetime Achievement Award, the DAR Medal of Patriotism and others. Now known as "America's Beloved Tenor", he continues to uplift and inspire in performances for his chosen charities and at concert halls around the world.

On **Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm**, Daniel Rodriguez will be performing at St. Catherine's for our *Celebrating the Joys and Blessings of the Season* concert. Price range is \$40 - \$75 and must be paid in full at time of purchase. Tickets are limited and include a light reception and "meet and greet" with Mr. Rodriguez. **For information or to purchase tickets, contact Whitney at 973-586-2777 or [queendubose@aol.com](mailto:queendubose@aol.com)**

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

All women are invited to our annual Christmas Gathering Thursday, Dec. 15! 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.

**SAVE THE DATE:  
WOMEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT  
Friday, March 10 - Sunday, March 12  
Details to follow**