



**Saturday December 2**  
5:30 pm Joan Pirolo, Nancy Cavaliere, and Adoracion Mendoza

**Sunday December 3** *First Sunday of Advent*  
7:30 am Larry Rea and our Parishioners  
9:30 am Michael Katzenberger and Michelino D'Addario  
11:30 am Diane Gironda and Andrea Chester

**Monday December 4**  
6:45 am Leanore Malone

**Tuesday December 5**  
6:45 am Deidre and James O'Brien

**Wednesday December 6**  
6:45 am Porfira Bautista

**Thursday December 7** *St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*  
6:45 am Frank and Barbara Sheer

**Friday December 8** *Immaculate Conception*  
6:45 am Our Parishioners  
12:00 pm Larry Rea, Charles Havlik and Margaret Hilinski  
7:30 pm Evelyn "Mickey" Mooney and Joanne Ippolito

**Saturday December 9**  
8:00 am Intention of Kevin Cunniff  
5:30 pm Larry Rea, Genevieve Argen, and Patricia Murphy

**Sunday December 10** *Second Sunday of Advent*  
7:30 am Margriet and John Carrico, Sr. and Our Parishioners  
9:30 am Sergio and Noemi Wong and Christiane Donahue  
11:30 am Louis and Alfred Tuzzi and Frank Croker

***The Advent candles are placed  
In loving memory of Michael Katzenberger,  
Jean Cecilia Girz, and Diane Gironda***

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, especially Arline Forte, Francis Forte, Sr. Bernadette Weller, Karen Lang, Mary Ann Armstrong, Michele Buck, Christa Fairclough, Pat Flannery, Pat Pongracz, Gus Mitchell, Jennie Iwasiuk, Edward Joyce, Sr., Ann Gerhardt, Sr. Joan Phillips, Kevin Cunniff and Andrew Andresko.

**STEWARDSHIP**

December 4, 2016 Collection & PP	\$ 9,038
MASS ATTENDANCE 706	
December 3, 2017 Sunday Collection	
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 9,126
Online Giving	857
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,983</b>
MASS ATTENDANCE 759	
Weekly Operating Expense	\$12,885

**Scripture Readings  
December 3, 2017  
First Sunday of Advent**

**First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7**  
In this straightforward psalm, the people acknowledge their sinful ways, yet plead that their Creator might reveal himself to them. They ask God to remember, not their sins, but that "We are all the work of your hands."

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**  
Paul explains to the Corinthians that they are specially favored by God who has sent his only Son to them. He reminds us all that it was through God's grace that we have been called to kinship with Christ.

**Gospel: Mark 13:33-37**  
Just as a servant watching over the master's house does not know when he will return, we do not know the hour of the Second Coming. Mark reminds us of the warning from Jesus to always be on guard, for we know not the day nor the hour.

**DECEMBER 9/10 CELEBRANT SCHEDULE**

5:30 pm	Fr. Jared Brogan
7:30 am	Fr. Jim Termyna
9:30 am	Fr. Jared Brogan
11:30 am	Fr. Edward Seton Fittin, OSB

***THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH***

**Monday, December 4**  
Scripture Study 1:00 to 2:30 pm  
RCIA 7:00 pm  
Ministry Night of Recollection 7:30 pm

**Tuesday, December 5**  
Moms & Tots 9:30 to 11:00 am

**Thursday, December 7**  
Prayer Group 1:00 pm  
Choir practice 7:00 pm  
Youth Night (gym) 7:30 pm

**Friday, December 8**  
Youth Night Carols at Merry Heart 6:15 pm

**Saturday, December 9**  
Breakfast with Santa 9:00 to 11:30 am  
Concert tickets on sale after Mass

**Sunday, December 10**  
Concert tickets on sale after all Masses

***O Holy Night***

**CHILDREN – Join us and sing with the choir  
at the 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass!**

Practices are  
Thursday, December 7, 14, and 21 (if needed) at  
7:00 pm in the parish center  
**RSVP Chris Wallace**  
**973-691-1666; cwallace@milschools.org**



**From the Desk of Fr. Jared**

Happy Advent! With this First Sunday of Advent we enter into a new liturgical year. We begin to read from "Year B" of the three-year Sunday Lectionary cycle. The prevalent evangelist for this cycle is Mark, the first of the gospels written around the year 60AD.

Advent is a season of preparation and joyful expectation for the advent (coming) of our God. We recall his coming two thousand years ago, we "await in joyful hope" his second coming, and we discover him daily in every person and situation. This four-week period (although designated by four Sundays only, not a full four weeks) is an opportunity to experience something new. It is an invitation to celebrate the Eucharist more often, celebrate Reconciliation, and spend more time in personal prayer. Each is an opportunity to break away from the often hectic days of this season.

In the entrance of the church we have *Word Among Us* books that provide reflections for Advent and Christmas. This book is a favorite of many and is available to assist you in making the most of Advent. Please be mindful also of the schedule of spiritual and social events coming up in the next few weeks. I hope that this Advent is a time of spiritual renewal and growth for each of you. Let us pray for "the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ" (*First Sunday of Advent, Collect*). Prepare and celebrate well!

Peace,  
Fr. Jared

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**

Next weekend we welcome Sister Maryanne Tracey, SC 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.

**ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

On **Saturday, December 16 at 8:00 pm**, the Imperial Brass Orchestra will be performing at St. Catherine's for our *Celebrating the Joys and Blessings of the Season* concert. **Tickets will be sold after Masses this weekend and December 9-10.** Tickets are first come, first served and are only \$30, which includes admission and a wine and cheese reception following the concert. Tickets must be paid in full at time of purchase. Tickets can also be purchased by contacting Whitney at 973-586-2777 or [queendubose@aol.com](mailto:queendubose@aol.com).

**ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2017**

**Immaculate Conception, Friday, December 8**  
6:45 am, 12:00 pm, 7:30 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Monday, December 11 7:00 – 8:00 pm

**Blessing of Baby Jesus**  
December 16 and 17 at all Masses

**Christmas Eve Masses, Sunday, December 24**  
**4:00pm** Fr. Jared Brogan  
*Children's Choir, Cantor, Instrumentalists*

**6:00pm** Fr. Edward Seton Fittin, OSB  
*Cantor, Instrumentalists*

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

Christmas carols will be sung before each Mass.

**Christmas Day Masses, Monday, December 25**  
**7:30am** Fr. Jim Termyna *Cantor, organist*  
**9:30am** Fr. Jared Brogan *Cantor, organist*  
**11:30am** Fr. Jared Brogan *Cantor, organist*

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**  
Monday, January 1 10:00 am Fr. Jared Brogan

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING: SAVE THE DATES!**

**Thursday, December 7, 7:30 pm**  
Youth Night – Cookie Baking

**Friday, December 8, 6:15 pm**  
Youth Night – Caroling at Merry Heart

**Saturday, December 9, 9:00-11:30 am**  
"Breakfast with Santa".

**Thursday, December 14, 7:00 pm**  
Annual Women's Benediction and Ornament Exchange

**Saturday, December 16, 8:00 pm**  
Imperial Brass Orchestra Concert

**Tuesday, December 19, 7:30 pm**  
Children's Christmas Pageant



**Advent Wreath Candles,  
Poinsettia Plants & Decorations**

This year, as in the past, 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 can also make a donation toward a candle on our Advent Wreath. The cost is \$100 per candle to remember a loved one (living or deceased) or give thanks for a special blessing in this way during the Season of Advent – December 3 through December 24. Your intention will be listed in the Bulletin. Please contact the Parish Office.



**NEWS FROM  
THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE  
UPCOMING DATES:**

- December 7** – Youth Night baking in gym 7:30 pm
- December 8** – Youth caroling at Merry Heart 6:15 pm
- December 18** – Christmas Pageant Practice 4:00-5:00
- December 19** – Christmas Pageant – 7:30 pm
- December 20 – January 7** – No Religious Education. Christmas break
- January 8, 2018** – Religious Education classes resume



**St. Catherine's Annual Christmas Pageant:**

What better way for our children to learn the story of our Savior's birth than to be part of it?

This year's pageant will take place on **Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 pm**. All 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to participate. Please contact the Religious Education Office at 973-334-5257 or [religionseducation@stcatherine-ml.org](mailto:religionseducation@stcatherine-ml.org) to sign up. Children must attend the practice on Monday, December 18 from 4:00-5:00.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

"Breakfast with Santa" will be held at St. Catherine's on **Saturday, December 9 from 9:00 to 11:30 am**. If you would like to attend, please sign-up in the Religious Education office, or call or email 973-334-5257 or [religionseducation@stcatherine-ml.org](mailto:religionseducation@stcatherine-ml.org). Hope to see you there!



**COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN**

A food safety course for St. Catherine's soup kitchen volunteers interested in being cleared to help prepare food is being offered at the Soup Kitchen from 2-3pm on Tuesday, January 9. If interested, please call Carol Kennedy 973-402-1503.

**YOUTH NIGHT**

*"Back-to-Back Christmas Fun"*

All 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to bake cookies and sing Christmas carols  
*(Join us for 1 or both nights)*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 at 7:30 PM**

Come bake cookies with your friends.

**MEET IN THE GYM AT ST. CATHERINE'S**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 6:15 PM – 7:30 PM**

Join us for Christmas caroling with the residents of Merry Heart Senior Center.

**MEET AT MERRY HEART**

199 Powerville Rd, Boonton

EMAIL Gail at [youthministry@stcatherine-ml.org](mailto:youthministry@stcatherine-ml.org) if you are interested

**GIVING TREE**



Please return your gifts no later than **THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8**. If you took a tag and cannot fulfill the request, it is important that you return the tag. Please place items on the stage in the gym. **Gifts should be wrapped with the tag taped to it.** Thank you for making a child's Christmas a little brighter.

**The Knights of Columbus will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets and pins next weekend after all Masses.**

**ANNUAL WOMEN'S  
CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT EXCHANGE  
7:00 pm, Thursday, December 14**

Call your friends, grab your mother, invite your sister and your daughter, it's time once again for our annual Christmas Gathering! We will start the evening off with Benediction at 7 pm in the church and then it's off to the parish center for refreshments (BYOB), carols and, of course, 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'd like to help with refreshments, please contact Barbara at 973-263-1758; [jbuck973@aol.com](mailto:jbuck973@aol.com) or Whitney at 973-586-2777; [queendubose@aol.com](mailto:queendubose@aol.com). We look forward to seeing everyone!

**Save the Date!**

St. Catherine of Siena  
**WINTER CARNIVAL**

Games for all ages!

Treats \* Fun \* Entertainment

**Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> 3:00 - 5:00 pm**

In the parish center. Family Mass to follow

\$10 per family

**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))