

THOUGHTS FOR THE 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is a time to live in joyful expectation of the coming of the Lord Jesus. Like Joseph, the Lord of Israel calls to us, speaking challenging, yet consoling words of hope and peace. We often do not want to hear God's calling because it may disrupt our plans. In the Town of Bethlehem, the world was changed forever. In the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary grew the One who would save the world from sin and death. As Christians, we are called to find the Light, beckoning us to become part of God's infinite story of compassion. Within us lies the potential to bring justice, peace, and God's love to all we meet!

A Christmas Prayer

Great God of Peace, we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus, remembering the words of the angels on the night of His birth.

"Peace on earth to all of good will."

Today, as never before, Heavenly Father, we pray for your loving peace. May peace be the guiding force in the hearts of our world leaders.

May peace reign in every corner of the globe and in the hearts of every man, woman, and child upon this earth. This Christmas and always, may we embrace your wonderful gift of peace with courage and conviction. In so doing, we will also be embracing your greatest gift to us, your Son, the Prince of Peace.

AMEN

Italian Classes will be offered at the Scalabrini Dukceovich Center - across the street from our Church. **Registration will be held at the Center on Thursday, January 2, 2020 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm and also on Saturday, January 4 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.** Italian Classes will begin on January 18 through March 28, 2020. Classes for **ADULTS** will be held on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 10:30 am; the cost is \$75. Italian Classes for **CHILDREN** (10 - 16 years old) will be held on Saturdays from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.; the cost is \$55. Registration is necessary. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO THESE EXCITING ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES!**

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL

The first greetings of this holy season were sent by God through an angel who announced not to the mighty, but to the poor shepherds - *"A Savior has been born to you, the Messiah and Lord!"* Let us keep Christ at the heart of Christmas and take time to think of His divine love for each of us. Our prayers go out to those who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure for the good of our parish community of Saint Bartholomew! We shall remember all who are sick, lonely or afflicted by sorrow, as well as those who will celebrate Christmas without Christ. May they respond to the kind invitation of Christ calling them back to His divine love. Together with Christ, we invite them to come back home. **To one and all, a most Blessed and Merry Christmas!**

+ CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE +

A warm welcome is extended to our parishioners and friends of the parish. Join us for our Christmas Masses as we adore the newborn Babe, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, during the blessed and joyous Christmas Season!

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday, December 24th

5:00 pm – Mass in English
7:00 pm – Mass in Spanish
Midnight – Mass in English

CHRISTMAS DAY - Wednesday, December 25th

8:00 am – Mass in English
9:30 am – Mass in Spanish
11:30 am – Mass in English

NEW YEAR'S EVE - Tuesday, December 31st

5:00 pm – Mass in English
7:00 pm – Mass in Spanish

**NEW YEAR'S DAY - Wednesday, January 1, 2020
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

8:00 am – Mass in English
9:30 am – Mass in Spanish
11:30 am – Mass in English
(Holyday of Obligation)

LOOKING AHEAD

December 24 - Christmas Eve
December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
December 30 - The Nativity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph
January 1, 2020 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
March 7, 2020 - Annual Parish Dinner Dance

MASSES FOR DECEMBER 23 - 29, 2019

*Every Mass is offered for the faithful, living or dead.
However the following are specifically remembered this week.*

Monday, December 23 - Advent

7:30 am - Deceased of Manfredi Family by Antonio
7:00 pm - Mass in Spanish

Tuesday, December 24 - Advent

7:30 am - Intentions of Parishioners
5:00 pm - Christmas Mass - English
7:00 pm - Christmas Mass -Spanish
Midnight - Christmas Mass - English

Wednesday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am - Christmas Mass - English
9:30 am - Christmas Mass - Spanish
11:30 am - Christmas Mass - English

Thursday, December 26 - St. Stephen, the First Martyr

7:30 am - Intentions of Christmas Flower Donors

Friday, December 27 - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

7:30 am - Needs of the Caliano Family by family
3:00 pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:00 pm - Mass in Spanish

Saturday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00 am - Intentions of Christmas Flower Donors

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday, December 28

5:00 pm

Eugene & Adina D'Allesandro & Deceased of Family
by Sandra D'Allesandro
Evelyn & Cosimo DeNucci and Rosemary & Joe Cullen
by Dan & Mary Anne

6:30 pm - Mass in Spanish

Sunday, December 29

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:00 am

Intentions of Parishioners

9:30 am - Mass in Spanish

11:30 am

Robert & Dorothy Bevilacqua
John & Maria Pitocco
Pasquale Vescera

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, December 26

No Confirmation Class

Friday, December 27

3:00 pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet – Chapel

Saturday, December 28

No CCD Classes
4:15 - 4:45 pm - Confessions - Church

Sunday, December 29

No Second Collection

+ WEEKLY CHURCH SUPPORT +

*What Our Lord Asks Is Not Equal Gifts - But Equal Sacrifice.
(Increased Giving Campaign)*

Weekend of December 14 & 15, 2019

Envelopes & Loose Collection: \$3,194.00

2nd Collection: \$1,939.00

Major Repair Fund

Sanctuary Candle:

Frank & Marion Cuiccio by daughters
Miguelina Hernandez by family

Altar Bread & Wine:

Frank & Marion Cuiccio by daughters
Miguelina Hernandez by family

+ Died in Christ +

Lorraine Romano

Baptized in Christ

Isabella Maria Garcia Mendoza

*This Week's Bulletin Is Sponsored
In Memory of*

**Deceased Members of the
Bassi Family**