

ST. JOHN VIANNEY – MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, Dec. 23 4th Sun of Advent

5:00 PM + Sheila Rhoades

SUNDAY, Dec. 24 4th Sun of Advent

10:00 AM – FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Christmas

5 PM + Louise & Theresa Ferrante / Fran & Frank Bagnati

MIDNIGHT – Albert Cannarozzi, III / Kathie & Al Cannarozzi

10:00 AM + Elena & Albert Cannarozzi, Sr. / the Family

SATURDAY, Dec. 30

5:00 PM – Ralph Benincasa Jr., / the family

SUNDAY, Dec. 31

8:00 AM – Christopher Hirsch / Family

10:00 AM – FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE – MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, Dec. 23 4th Sun of Advent

5:00 PM + Lucia O'Meara / Pat Snouffer

SUNDAY, Dec. 24 4th Sun of Advent

10:00 AM – PARISH FAMILY OF STA

CHRISTMAS

5:00 PM – PARISH FAMILY OF STA

MIDNIGHT – PARISH FAMILY OF STA

10:00 AM – PARISH FAMILY OF STA

TUESDAY, Dec. 26

8:00 AM + Friends and Family of the Cokinos & Sullivan Fam.

7:00 PM – Rosary

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27

8:00 AM + Joseph Palazzolo / Kreisinger Family

THURSDAY, Dec. 28

8:00 AM + Abela Santos / Rosemary Wood

FRIDAY, Dec. 29

8:00 AM + Christopher Ashman / his family

SATURDAY, Dec. 30

5:00 PM + Gervase Castner / Pat & Tom Barrett

SUNDAY, Dec. 31

9:00 AM Christopher Hirsch Family

10:00 AM – Margaret Harnish / Jim & Roberta Smath

THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY

USAF Airman James Perez

Cpl. Michael Koval, USMC

PFC Jonathan Cuervo, USMC

PFC Anthony Imperato, USMC

Let us keep them in our prayers.

In honor of the Military serving our country at home and abroad, we invite you to remain after the Recessional Song at all weekend Masses to recite three Hail Mary's for their safety.



OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE AS YOU LEAVE MASS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017



Dear Parish Family:



This is the shortest the Fourth Week of Advent can possibly be. Within twenty-four hours the Church will be celebrating Christmas and the birth of our Lord. It is tempting to overlook the Fourth Week of Advent this year. It seems insignificant in that it consists only of Christmas Eve, and in fact is easily overshadowed by Christmas. So too did Mary seem like an *insignificant* woman and Bethlehem like an *insignificant* town. **But we know God places value in what seems to us *insignificant*.**

CHRISTMAS EVE (BOTH CHURCHES)

Dec. 24 – 5 pm and Midnight (12:00 am)

CHRISTMAS DAY (BOTH CHURCHES)

Dec. 25 – 10:00 am

NEW YEAR'S DAY – JAN 1ST 9:00 AM (BOTH CHURCHES)

(No evening Mass)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before and after Masses on Saturdays.

You can also call the Rectory for an appointment at any time during the day.



PRAYER FOR LIFE: That all who are pregnant and afraid may welcome the life within them, and draw strength from the angel Gabriel's words to Mary: Do not fear, we pray

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Brennan McCoy, Veronica Janssen, Kathy Brennan, Bill Povalitis, Aaron Alonzo, Tony Cabrera, Adela Glusiec, Sal Giello, Sal D 'Arco, , Marie Claude Jerome & Family, Msgr. Brendan P. Madden, Kevin Wickert, Betty Klein, Fumiko Lutz, Patricia Carapola & Bob Carapola, Courtney Sanchelli, Danny Scillieri, Gail Brennan, Fr. Michael Burke, Fr. Ron Sordillo, Louis "Louie" Panetta, Rich Day, Vicki Cardinali, Richard Lavelle, Marion Coleson, Chris Osborne, Rose Kelly, Stephen Vecchiotti, Devon Carbery, Bishop emeritus Frank J. Rodimer, Vincent Ottani, Kathleen Peterson, Mrs. Karas, Linda Albecker, Ernie Sudo, Gloria Fetter, Penny Sorokach (nursing home), Brandon Wozniak, and Lisa Laganella.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED: Carolyn Wright, Regina

McCartney, Bill Braccone, Michael Adams, Joseph

Wyso, Jim Fierro, Loretta Perrucci, Theodore Ciesla,

Lewis Kansas, Margaret Babich, John Mahon, Elvira

Budesheim, Robert Olivieri, Pauline Diliberto, Sam Carabello, Alex D'Arco, Gene Keeler, Joan Cartier, John Habuda, Timothy Egan, Michael Kaiser, Margaret Godar, Anna Annucci, Eugene Ambrosio, Rosa Bascietto, Elena Galfo, George Dick, Elizabeth Minardi, Leah Mary Cummings, Jack Straus, Eileen Carbery, Stasia Wargo, Wladyslaw Kowalski, Marjorie (Peggy) Zajdel, Evelyn Geary, Shirley Brown, Marge Endlicher, Gary Smitheman, Chris Hirsch, Joan France, Rev. Fr. William Michael George (nephew of Nancy & Jim Zajdel), Esther Benard, Vincent Ginella, Marguerite Socci, Chris Woop, Antoinette Sterlaci, Mark Hale, Esther Punturieri, Lucy Cox, Claire Reilly,

Joseph Romano, Fr. Bob Hooper, Madeline Mae Greischel, James Geary, Fr John Kenney C.S.P., John Zboraj, Helen Rogers, William Noriega, Gary Feiner, J. Glenn Beury and Shelia Rhoades.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK? How can I take the gift of Jesus that I have been given and share this gift with others?

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Anyone requesting a prayer shawl should fill out a form in the lobby of STA and leave the completed form in the basket. We will contact you with a time to pick up your shawl. For immediate need, please call Gabby Dyl at 973-713-0280. The Prayer Shawl ministry meets at STA at 7:30 pm the first Thursday of the month: next meeting is **Jan 4**, please join us. For more info. Call Renee Ferreri: 518-321-523.



FAMILY CONNECTION: One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.



recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.



Helping Hands is a combined parish community service group. If you are in need of any type of help, or if you know someone who needs help, please contact Gabrielle Dyl at 973-713-0280.

We are also searching for more volunteers! Open to all ages! This is a great way for the youth to get community service hours needed for Confirmation and Scouts.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION (HOLY HOUR)

Eucharistic Adoration held in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at STA on Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. is a wonderful opportunity for quiet contemplation. Several parishioners who have attended these holy hours expressed their contentment with it. Although you may not be able to attend every Monday evening try to come at least sometimes.

Come to all who are weary

This is a long time Saint Thomas the Apostle tradition. After Mass, there is a short novena to St. Peregrine said for those suffering with cancer and HIV/AIDS. The Lord is always calling: "Come to all who are weary and I will refresh you". Come join us.

MARANATHA! Gabriel the archangel brought hard joy to the Virgin Mary: "Rejoice, most favored, the Lord is with you. If you agree, you will have a baby who is your savior and your God." What an awe-filled choice! And Mary said, "Yes." Such cooperation between the Lord and the woman begins the revelation of the great hidden mystery: the presence of Christ Jesus, Savior and Lord, among us. Celebrating Mary's choice, give glory to God through the only begotten son, Jesus. Maranatha! *Text, Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 1999, OCP. All rights reserved.*

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON TO BE HONORED IN CONVENT STATION



The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth cordially invite you to join them for the Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Seton Associate Commitment Ceremony.

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 6, 2018, at Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, NJ, at 11:00 a.m. The Mass will be followed by a light lunch in the study hall of the Academy of Saint Elizabeth. The Heritage Room at the Motherhouse will be open for a display of Mother Seton memorabilia. For more information call 973-290-5470. In case of inclement weather call (973) 290-5478. Snow date is January 13, 2018.

BLESSING OF MANGER SCENE



"God of Mary and Joseph, of shepherds and animals, Bless us whenever we gaze on this manger scene. Through all the days of Christmas may thee figures tell the story of how humans, angels and animals found he Christ in this poor place.

Fill our house with hospitality, joy, gentleness, and thanksgiving and guide our steps in the way of peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord."



Blessing of a Christmas Tree

Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.

YOU DID IT FOR ME



As the official international Catholic relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Relief Services draws upon a rich tradition of Scripture and Catholic social teaching, which serve as the foundation for CRS' Guiding Principles. Acting as a guide to what a just world might look like, these Principles are shared across religious and cultural boundaries and articulate values that are common among people who seek to promote and work towards true justice and lasting peace.

PROJECT RACHEL: is a process that leads people to healing and reconciliation after an abortion experience. To talk to someone about beginning this journey, please call 973-777-8818, ext. 272. All calls are confidential.

CHOOSE LIFE "In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ." Pope John Paul II, the Gospel of Life



Readings for Christmas and Octave:

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Christmas Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

The great moment in the history of salvation, began with the visit of the angel Gabriel and the invitation to be the mother of Jesus. It is not surprising that Mary hesitated, questioned and then consented. Wouldn't you? Her response 'I am the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say' redirected the course of human history.

The celebration of the Bethlehem event tonight, allows us not just to recall what happened, but to imitate Mary and permit the Lord to touch our lives in a truly special way. Our traditions and customs are rich as we relive Jesus' entering our lives again. The Simbang Gabi celebration of Filipino Catholics or Las Posadas of Latin Catholics lead us to the stable cave to meet and adore the Lord of history, the Lord of today. We have been praying 'Come Lord Jesus' for the four weeks of advent. Today, we welcome Him with joy.

As we celebrate this special night, may we be ready to open our door not just to Joseph and Mary, but Christ who comes to us.

BAPTISMS

At SJV: the last Sunday of the month either during the 10:30 am Mass **or at 11:45 am.** (Note the change in time)

At STA: the First Sunday of the month - either during the 11:00 a.m. Mass **or at 12:15 pm.** (Note the change in time.)

Couples desiring to have their child baptized **should be active parishioners, attending Mass regularly. Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Meeting.**

The next meeting will take place at Saint Thomas the Apostle on Monday evening at 7 pm January 8, 2018, March 19 - (CONFIRMATION is March 12 so the class had to be pushed back a week.) May 14 and July 9. To make baptismal arrangements contact the parish office by email: terry@ststthomasjohn.org or call Saint John Vianney at 973-697-6550 / Saint Thomas the Apostle at 973-208-0090.

Knights of Columbus ~ Council Meetings

St. John Vianney Council #12649 meets at Saint John Vianney Church Hall the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Joseph Lamb Council #5510 meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at Wiegand Farm – Department for Persons with Disabilities' meeting room. Both meetings start at 7:30 p.m.

MARRIAGES

Prior to your booking of the reception, please call the Parish Office 1 year in advance of the wedding date to allow for proper pre-marital preparation.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday Evening: 4:00 to 4:45 PM.

By request: contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

**Saint John Vianney/Saint Thomas the Apostle
Director of Rel. Ed. - debbie@ststthomasjohn.org
CLASSES START: SATURDAY, SEPT 16, 2017**

Grades K-8: Saturday mornings 8:30 – 9:45AM

September – April at White Rock Elementary School.

Combined Confirmation Classes (9th & 10th Grade)
September – April, Bi-Monthly on Sunday mornings at Saint Thomas – Grade 9 - 10:30 AM - Noon Grade 10 - 8:45 AM - 10:15 AM

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: A parishioner is one who belongs to the parish family. As such, he/she is registered and is committed through participation in the life of the parish community by attending mass regularly and by financially supporting your parish. In order for Baptism and Marriages to be administered and Sponsor Certificates, recommendations, etc. to be issued by the office, the person requesting such must be registered and an active member of Saint John Vianney Parish or Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish community. We request that you register at the rectory when you move into our community so that we may be of service to you.

