

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 13, 2015**  
**LITURGY SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 12**

5:00 p.m. – Rachel D'Anton & William V. D'Anton Sr. & Jr.

**Sunday, December 13**

8:30 a.m. – Loretta Ann Joyce req. by Sue Ellen Appleby & family

10:00 a.m. – William McCue req. by the Shaffer family

**Monday, December 14**

12:00 p.m. – Joseph Christoff req. by the Maulbeck family

**Tuesday, December 15**

12:00 p.m. – Howard B. Pratt req. by Kathleen Cilurso

**Wednesday, December 16**

12:00 p.m. – Paul Bahnatka req. by Michael & Donna Gosden & family

**Thursday, December 17**

12:00 p.m. – Elizabeth Carroll req. by the Hamman family

**Friday, December 18**

8:00 a.m. – Joseph Petruzzello

**Saturday, December 19**

5:00 p.m. – Ronald Cooke req. by Aunt Geri

**Sunday, December 20**

8:30 a.m. – Bill Lenahan req. by his wife, Eleanor

10:00 a.m. – Mildred & Martin Di Guiseppi req. by Pat & Jack

**PARISH POLICY – PLEASE NOTE** - All Catholic families living within the parish boundaries are encouraged to register as members. Registration as a parish member has many benefits, and in particular, facilitates any arrangements for baptisms, marriages, sponsors, etc. **Please contact the Parish Office at 973-627-0422**

**First Friday Communion Calls:** A priest will be making "First Friday" visits to those who are homebound. These visits will be made by one of our priests who will distribute Holy Communion. He will also be available for the sacraments of penance and anointing of the sick. Please call the rectory at 972-627-0422 to register your name for this monthly visit by one of our priests.

**Want to be more involved?**

If you are wondering "how can I become more involved in my church community", we happen to be looking for a few good people!! If you would like more information on how to become a Lector, Minister of Communion or an Altar Server, please contact Fr. Marcia at 973-627-0313 ext: 15 or [martmich1983@gmail.com](mailto:martmich1983@gmail.com)

**You are invited** to pray the Rosary every Sunday at 9:30am. Bring the intentions deep in your heart to Our Lady.

**Hospitality:** Please join us for hospitality after the 10AM mass on Sunday, December 20th.

**Food Drive:** The weekend of December 19th and 20th is our monthly food drive for the Rockaway Food Pantry. Canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, pasta, etc. The food pantry sent a BIG thank you for all the food from the November drive. It was much needed for Thanksgiving.

**Women Society Christmas Party:** All women are invited to our annual Christmas Party on Monday night, December 14th at 7pm. It will be held in the All Purpose Room of the school. If you would like to bring a dessert or goodie to share great! Our favorite grab bag is a \$10 gift if you would like to join in the fun. For more information, please call Claire 973-586-9706.

**Aging religious need your help.** In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. **Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious** helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.



Anna & John Gula  
Requested by: daughter, Joanne

**Collection for December 5&6: \$3447.00**  
**Parish Pay Electronic Giving: \$2073.36 (November)**  
**Collection from last year: \$ 2745.00**  
**Ongoing Renovation "Jug" Money: \$9377.30**

**PARISH PAY:** Have you thought about automating your giving? No more writing checks! You decide the amount and the frequency. Sign up today for automatic contributions to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Go to the Parish Pay link at [www.sacredheartrockaway.org](http://www.sacredheartrockaway.org) or call 866-727-4741.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**

**IN THE MILITARY**

Major Mike Cherry

LCpl. Aleksandr Killeen, SSgt. Zhenya Killeen

Airman 1st Cl. Andrew Mistkowski,

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Nicholas DelCore, Air Force

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jessica L. Rotile Rudo

Kenneth Rudo, Warrant Officer, 1

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** M.J. Simon, Irene Schreiber, Rosemary Woodring, Doug Bansch, Kevin McGuire, Maria Acevedo, TJ Schoude, Capt. Adam Cowan, USA, Julio Soto, Ellen Forbes, Jean Weber, Ben Marvilla, Frances Murphy, Michelle Monslave, Theodora Maulbeck, Enid Osorno Patricia Martinelli, Amelia Marie Cayea, Mary Therese Loftus, Sharon Bauer, Mary Davenport, Jose Prado, Jean Hageny, Eugene Walsh, Arlene Berlin, Emil Fahrman, Jim Goliat, Robert Nielsen, Betty Dixon, Marge Vogel, Dan Koettters, Efrain Gonzalez, Amanda Villarubia, Mary Skelly, Carol McMahon, Peggy Jankowski, John Skutka, William McBurney, Kay Shaffer, Tom Haynes.

	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	<b>Altar Servers</b>
<b>December 19 @ 5:00 pm</b>	Lyle Ryder	Laura Andreotta <b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	Liam Orr <b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
<b>December 20 @ 8:30 am</b>	John Sautter	Kathy Caldwell Anne Marie Hopler	Richie Lazar Nicholas Schreiber
<b>December 20@10:00 am</b>	Jack Zayac	Dennis Corbisiero Joanne Gula	Jessica Waskas Sofia Nunez

*ALL MINISTERS: Copies of the schedule are available in the sacristy. Any questions/concerns please contact the appropriate group leader.*

*My dear parishioners,*

*JOY is the word we hear as we come together to celebrate the Lord's Day on this the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as "Gaudete Sunday." "Gaudete" is the Latin word for rejoice and this is the word which resounds over and over again in the liturgy for this day. The ordo states: Gaudete (rejoice), taken from the Latin translation of the Letter to the Philippians 4:4-5, sets a tone of joyful expectation for the Lord's birth and Second Coming, as does the permitted use of rose-colored vestments. In the first lection for today we read from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah, "The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals." Yes, God is in our midst in the person of His Only Begotten Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Sacramentally He is present in the Most Holy Eucharist. Differently, He is present in His word (scriptures) and in the faces we see each day.*

*What brings much joy to me and other clergy are the smiling faces of our children who accompany their parents to Holy Communion at Mass. Our precious little ones are the joy of our parish family. I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents to prepare their children to receive a blessing from the priest or deacon when they come up with the adult. Children who have not yet received First Holy Communion and who are able, should be instructed by their parents to stand with their hands crossed over their chest to receive a blessing. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY THE PRIEST OR DEACON CAN GIVE A BLESSING WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS AND IS NEVER DONE BY A LAY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION. Parents should speak to their children and tell them that they too will be receiving something very special as they accompany them on the communion line, a blessing from the Lord. Modeling for children that "the Lord is in our midst" will show little ones how they should conduct themselves. I encourage our parents to have perseverance in bringing the children to Holy Mass. This practice will show them from a very early age that the Lord's Day is special and it is made holy by our celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. So I encourage you again, my dear parents, keep talking to your children about the holiness of the Lord's Day, the house of God, the Mass and the sacraments. In doing this you bring JOY to the Lord of Hosts!*

*What brings joy to your pastor's heart is the generosity which comes from so many of the good people of our parish. I only had the request for one week in the bulletin and immediately donors came forth for the holy water reservoir and the holy year banner. I am most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dimarcantonio for their donation of the holy water reservoir. The reservoir is used to contain holy water and is normally positioned at the entrance of the church. Also, my thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Zayac for their donation of the holy year banner which is positioned in the sanctuary and will remain there until the close of the holy year on November 19, 2015.*

*Speaking of generosity, a number of parishioners have informed me that they will be increasing their Sunday offerings to the parish as a result of my FINANCE PRESENTATION given on the last weekend of November. I am most grateful for that and I pray everyone will be able to do the same. Yes, the Lord is in our midst and is found in those who are willing to be selfless and gracious. REJOICE for the Lord is near!*

*Father Zig*

**Holiday Shopping:** Please keep in mind while shopping for your holiday meals to purchase food gift cards, which helps support Sacred Heart School. They are sold after all the Masses and in the school office. They also make great stocking stuffers, holiday grab bag gifts, and for family and friends gift ideas. Thank you for always supporting Sacred Heart School!!

**SIMBANG GABI:** The first night of the Filipino tradition of a nine-day Novena Masses during Advent in preparation for the Nativity of Jesus will be held here at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. You are cordially invited to join the Diocesan and parish-sponsored Simbang Gabi (Filipino for "Mass of the Night or Evening) celebration on **Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00** in the evening. Our Parochial Vicar, Fr. Marcin Michalowski will be the main celebrant. The Simbang Gabi is coordinated by the Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) of the Diocese of Paterson. For more information or if you wish to help, please contact Elmer Maximo, Vice President of DCCFM at elmerism@gmail.com Filipino refreshment immediately follows Mass in Suchon Hall.

**Please be advised that the Dogmatic Dinner scheduled for December 15th has been cancelled due to the Simbang Gabi Mass. Our next Dogmatic Dinner will be January 19th at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there!**

**JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY** – The Saint Monica Guild of Saint Cecilia Church is sponsoring a pilgrimage May 17-18 (Wednesday-Thursday), to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, New York. The pilgrimage is open to all parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. The cost of the pilgrimage is approximately \$200 per person. Details regarding departure, schedule of devotions, hotel information, etc. will be forthcoming. We anticipate a full bus for this religious journey during the Holy Year of Mercy. Please call St. Cecilia Parish office for information 973.627.0313.

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE** – On Monday evening, December 21st at 7 o'clock, a penance service will be held in Saint Cecilia Church for parishioners of St. Cecilia and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parishes. Six priests will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation. This is a wonderful opportunity to prepare one's heart for the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord. Confession before Christmas is cleansing for the soul!

**A DIVINE MERCY ENCOUNTER - FREE YEAR OF MERCY CONCERT** Please join us on Saturday, December 19th from 7-9pm at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish for an evening of prayer & reflection on Jesus' Divine Mercy. This evening will feature music meditations composed by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish music director, Derek Nelson. Compositions are based on the writings of St. Faustina, Blessed Mother Teresa, Saint Pope John Paul II, and others. The evening begins with Eucharistic Adoration (Confession will be available), and ends with the singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This program is a perfect way to get into the spirit of the upcoming "Year of Mercy". The cost is FREE, but a good will offering basket will be left out to support the ministry. For more information please contact Derek or Jennifer Nelson [atadivinemercyencounter@gmail.com](mailto:atadivinemercyencounter@gmail.com).

**Sacred Heart Students** in Grades 5-8 and their families had a great time together during S.T.E.M. night on December 3 as they worked together to accomplish the Tall Tower Challenge, a design activity to promote science by design and creative thinking.

