



First Sunday of Advent  
November 29, 2015

Holy Mass  Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>November 28</b> Mary A. Tyrone, Robert & Thomas Chiarello, Deceased Members of the Coviello Family
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>November 29</b> Msgr. Tom Coletta and Frank Lehr, Jr. Marie Elizabeth Reali and Jim Granato Alphons Schellekens and Kathleen Fitzpatrick Elizabeth Tunney and Shirley Holick
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>November 30</b> Janine DiCostanzo and Frances Murtagh
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 1</b> Robert C. Brigham and Gloria Orlando
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 2</b> Steven Johe and Adam Vazir
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 3</b> Cyril DeSouza and Thomas Peterpaul
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am	<b>December 4</b> Peter Coviello, Sr. and Nora Calienes
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 5</b> Mark Brigham and E.J. Schmeltz Deceased Members of the DeSouza and Estrada Families and Carmen Armas
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	<b>December 6</b> Thomas Fitzpatrick and Patricia Flynn Alphons Schellekens and Lois Ludwig Maryann & Peter Cullen and Bill Schwarze Amelia & Sabino Gaito and Sabino, Jr. and Virginia and Carlo Miele

**Weekly Memorials**

**The Lamp** burning before the Blessed Sacrament the week of November 29th is in memory of Deceased Members of the Sorrentino Family given by the Family.

**The Candles** on the altar the week of November 29th are in memory of Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus.

**The Flowers** on the altar the week of November 29th are in memory of Deceased Members of the Dolland and Zucchi Families given by Mr. & Mrs. Zucchi.

**Hear our Prayers for those who are ill** especially Kevin Hamilton, Robert Hartle, Phyllis Monks, Robert Astorino, Anthony LaFerrara, Emily Monks, Neiko Pagaling, Denise Phalon, Cascio, Gene Hunt, , Frances Smith, Tom Warren, Judy Lataladi, Gregory Bozzo, Dorothy Sullivan, Bill Lanahan, Cathy Bedford, Hope Tinn Clark, Irene Buss, Roger Goodman, Maria Selca-Haher, Robert Olpp, Patrizia Astorino, Terry Gardner, Nora Ray, Carol Meyers, Pat Marciano, Maryanne Duffy McDermott, Kyle Noonan, Thomas Unger, Sandy Safier, , Tony Caljean, Jo Marino, Warren Gramm, William Virgilio, Mary Cecere, Kristin Curcio, Tony Capone, Michael Marino, David Johnson, John Hurley, Luke Klisart, Eileen Horan and **for all our deceased especially John Burns.**



**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 6, 2015

**First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9**

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

**Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

**Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.

**Mass Schedule December 5th & 6th**

<b>Fr. Bob</b>	<b>Sunday 9 am and 5 pm</b>
<b>Fr. Chris</b>	<b>Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 11 am</b>
<b>Salesian</b>	<b>Sunday 7:30 am</b>

**Reconciliation (Confession) December 5th**

<b>Fr. Chris</b>	<b>Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm</b>
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**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4  
IN THE CHURCH**



**THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

**Monday, November 30**

Meditation Group: 7 pm; Church

**Tuesday, December 1**

First Reconciliation Rehearsal: 4-5:15 pm; Church

**Wednesday, December 2**

First Reconciliation Rehearsal: 4-5:15 pm; Church

Women of Mary Program : 7 pm; Parish Center

**Thursday, December 3**

Walking with Purpose: 9 am; East/West Room

Marian Prayer Group: 10 am; North Room

Walking with Purpose: 7 pm; South Room

Knights of Columbus: 8:30 pm; East Room

**Friday, December 4**

Adult Scripture Study: 9 am; South Room

First Reconciliation: 7 pm; Church

**Saturday, December 5**

First Reconciliation: 10 am; Church

Advent Concert: 7:30 pm; Church

**Sunday, December 6**

Faith Formation: 8:15 am, 10:15 am, & 7pm; School  
Christmas in a Box Drop Off: 9-11 am; Parish Center

RCIA: 12:15 am; South Room

Faith Formation 8th Grade: 6:30 pm Parish Center



*From the desk of our Pastor*

## Advent

This weekend marks the beginning of a new church year as we journey into Advent. Advent is a season of joyful waiting that leads to the celebration of the birth of Christ as well as anticipation for his second coming. This year Advent brings to light scripture passages from Luke's Gospel and the prophet Isaiah, which induces surprise into the season with a challenge to celebrate these weeks with self examination rather than as a countdown to Christmas. Luke's Gospel calls followers of Christ to give rise to the avoidance of living with drowsy hearts caused by the anxieties of life so that Christians pay attention to their actions, thoughts, and attitudes. This leads to the discovery of God in the details of each day as well as in the events and emotions of everyday living. This fulfills the main thrust of Advent.

Since Pope Francis has announced a Holy Year of Mercy that begins next week, Advent invites us to experience our own mercy so that we may extend it to others. In an article, *Mercy Me, Celebration* November 2015, Pat Martin states, "The pope believes that by making mercy our highest priority, the church will uncover the authentic experience of the Gospel that alone can help so many of us to know God for the first time and can help move many Catholic bishops from an emphasis on their juridical, doctrinal and hierarchical roles to their primary identity as apostles, shepherds and pastors... In his invitation, Pope Francis invites us to explore Jesus' relationship with his Father and with his disciples, who learn the ways of mercy by his example and through his parables. The pope urges us to consider anew these same parables, especially the Good Samaritan, the Unmerciful Servant, the Vineyard Workers, the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son."

Advent also is a season to unlock God's presence in common activities that steer many to shopping, social gatherings, gift wrapping and card writing. It is common to lose sight that the Corporal Works of Mercy get lived out by a simple act such as holding a door open for a fellow shopper who is rushing into a mall. This becomes an opportunity for holiness. Affirming comments and patience with sales personnel at checkout registers also makes a day brighter for another who may be working long hours or new to a position. Tolerance on the road, as well as at airports, bus and train stations brings pleasantness into the life of a stranger who may never say thanks, but remember such an unexpected act of kindness. Hospitality coupled with listening skills at social events is another path to follow which provides someone an opportunity to share stories that engenders happiness on the part of an individual searching for conversation and attention. As a church community, Advent awakens us to needs that stem from social justice or world concerns; the recent terror attacks in France remind all of the way that life is so precious, and the need to cherish each day as a gift from God. Therefore, the hope throughout Advent is to discover peace within oneself through efforts that grasp God's presence in people which melts away distractions that lull followers away from God.

Tuesday of this week, December 1, is designated as World AIDS Day. This began in 1998 by the World Summit of Ministers of Health on Aids. The day generates hope where work is done to free the world from AIDS. The church is in a unique position to address issues that pertain to AIDS by offering counseling, love, and compassion to people with HIV/AIDS, their families, and friends. The theme for this year is "Getting to Zero, Let's End It." In 2014, an estimated 36.9 million people were living with HIV including 2.6 million children. A vast majority of these people live in low and middle income countries; also in that same year 1.2 million people died of AIDS related illnesses.

Today, the church welcomes you to the Season of Advent. Perhaps it is a post-Thanksgiving recovery from family gatherings, travel, food preparation and even a bit of shopping. Although the weeks ahead may initiate obligations to work schedules, medical needs, and a bit of fun, look for occasions to discover God in some of the forgotten or hurting people within each day. It will encourage you to know that your efforts throughout Advent are worth while.

*In Christ's Love,  
Fr. Bob*

**BAPTISM:** Arrangements should be made one month in advance by calling Deacon Joe Wisneski at 973-635-4976. Parents are expected to attend an instructional session with a Baptism Team. Baptisms are celebrated at 12:30 pm Sundays or at a Sunday Mass.

**RCIA-RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The R.C.I.A. invites non-baptized persons and those baptized into another faith to participate in a faith journey in preparation for becoming a Catholic. If you are interested in any aspect of R.C.I.A., please email Deb at [Dkuzma@st-pats.org](mailto:Dkuzma@st-pats.org) or call her at the parish office at ext. 23.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Congratulations! In order that we can together plan for your big day, couples should notify the Church and begin to prepare at least one year in advance of the date. Please email Fr. Bob at [Fr.Bob@st-pats.org](mailto:Fr.Bob@st-pats.org) or call Fr. Bob at the parish office ext. 22.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOME BOUND:** If a family member or someone you know is recuperating from a hospital stay or is homebound for any length of time and would like to receive Holy Communion, please let us know. It is a priority for the parish community to support and be present to those who cannot be with us for the celebration of the Eucharist. If you would like a priest or deacon to visit a family member who is hospitalized, contact Peggy at [Pgentile@st-pats.org](mailto:Pgentile@st-pats.org) or call her at the parish office ext. 25.

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please call the parish office at 973-635-0625 to arrange for a priest.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST:** Children preparing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist begin preparation in first grade. To register, visit our website at [www.st-pats.org](http://www.st-pats.org) or contact Ginny, [vsalvatore@st-pats.org](mailto:vsalvatore@st-pats.org).

## **AROUND THE PARISH**

**Welcome New Parishioners!** Are you seeking a parish community in which to pray, to learn and to be of service to others? Our doors and hearts are open to you-Welcome! Contact Peggy Gentile at the parish offices for additional information at 973-635-0625 ext. 25.



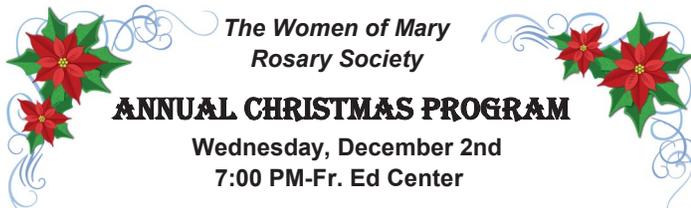
### **Christmas in a Box-Drop Off**

Thanks to everyone who was able to help out this year with our Christmas outreach ministry! Remember that drop off for your donations is **NEXT Sunday, Dec. 6th**. Please drop off at the Fr. Ed Center by 11 am. Our many volunteers will make this process easy. Thanks to our volunteers, curbside drop off is available! Thank you again!



We invite you to choose a Gift Tag from our Giving Tree in the lobby of the church or parish office. Each tag will indicate a small Christmas gift wish that you can fulfill. Toys will go to the *Market Street Mission*, a shelter for homeless men, so

that these men can give gifts to their children. The Walmart gift cards will go to *Our Promise*, a daytime drop-in center for the homeless and the food gift cards are provided to *Eva's Kitchen* for the one day a year when they do not provide a hot lunch. In addition, gifts will also go to local families and other charities. We invite you to choose a Gift Tag and return your unwrapped gifts to the Parish Offices or by the Giving Tree in our Church foyer anytime before Sunday, December 6th. Please return any gift cards purchased including food and Walmart cards, to the Parish Office. Thank you for reaching out to others during this Advent Season.



Join us for an Old Fashion Christmas featuring wonderful music, great refreshments including ***Cake by Sally***, our ***Advent Angels***, and raffles.

This is a free event. Guests are asked to bring an unwrapped gift, i.e., baby clothes, disposable diapers, blankets and/or gifts for the young mothers such as toiletries, stationery, cardigan sweaters, etc., for those being served by Birth Haven. We will also have our annual Advent Tree featuring Angel Ornaments with the name of the person you are to remember during the Advent Season. Please call the Parish Office to RSVP or if you need a ride: 973-635-0625.

### **RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

*Song, Biblical reading, Reflection and Private Absolution*

**Tuesday, December 15, 2015  
7 pm in the Church**

*Several priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*



## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

**"Gloria" Advent Christmas Concert**  
*A musical celebration of the Christ Child for families*

**Saturday, December 5: 7:30 pm at St. Patrick Church**  
**Sunday, December 6: 2:00 pm at Christ the King**  
*Directed by Music Ministers*  
**Maggie Hanson & Elias Scultori**  
**Admission is free**

The 5th annual Advent concert with combined choirs of St. Patrick and Christ the King is almost here. This gala celebration of the coming Christ Child is a must! More than 60 adult and teenage singers make up the chorus. A complete handbell choir will play, and special instruments like harp, trumpet, cello, drums, violin, and flute will adorn the music. Child and adult readers will share touching stories of Christ's birth. Most of the music will be familiar Advent/Christmas favorites, but some of it will be unique, mysterious, and unusual. The directors began work for this occasion in August. Choir members began practice in October, with a half-day retreat followed by two months of rehearsals. Bring your family and neighbors to enjoy the magic that results when faith-filled parishioners, love, and hard work come together in the name of Christ. You will feel the wonder and joy Christ brings. You will be touched, uplifted, and amazed.

### **In need of Care and/or Prayers?**

Please remember that in accordance with HIPPA laws, hospitals cannot contact the parish with the names of our parishioners who have been admitted. If you know of someone in a hospital or nursing home who would like to be contacted or prayed for, please call the parish office. This information is confidential and can be passed on, if requested, to our Nurses, Caring Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and included in our prayer intentions.

### **Shop AmazonSmile to Support St. Patrick**

**AmazonSmile** is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. Patrick's every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Patrick Parish. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Type *St. Patricks Chatham* in the search box. Select St. Patrick Church in Chatham from the list and that's it!

### **Children's Gingerbread Workshop**

On Saturday, December 19th from 10:30 am-noon, Youth Ministry will be hosting a Gingerbread House Morning for children in kindergarten and older. For \$15, each child will receive a full-size gingerbread house and everything needed to decorate it. Youth Ministry teens will be on hand to give individual help to the younger children. Proceeds will be used for future YM activities and events. Grab a friend and join in the fun! Sign up sheets will be available at the doors of the church and in the parish offices in December.





## FAITH FORMATION

### **Children's Live Nativity at 3:30 pm on Christmas Eve Prelude to the 4 pm Mass.**

Children in grades K-I are invited to participate. All costumes are provided. Teens and parents are needed to assist the children at the rehearsal on Sat., Dec. 19th and at the reenactment of the Nativity on December 24th. To sign-up your children and/or to volunteer, log onto the parish website: [www.st-pats.org](http://www.st-pats.org). Look for *News & Updates* on the home page and click on *Children's Live Nativity Sign-Up*. Read the details then click on *Sign-Up*, the direct link to our Sign Up Genius page. Contact Ginny with questions at 973-635-0625 ext. 27 or [vsalvatore@st-pats.org](mailto:vsalvatore@st-pats.org).

### **First Reconciliation Celebrations**

#### **Friday, Dec. 4th at 7 pm**

- Children attending Catholic Schools and children attending class on Sunday Session I at 8:15 am
- Rehearsal: Tues., Dec. 1st from 4-5:15 pm in the church

#### **Saturday, Dec. 5th at 10 am**

- Children attending Sunday Session II at 10:15 am and Monday, Session IV at 4 pm
- Rehearsal: Wed., Dec. 2 from 4-5:15 pm in the church

**No Faith Formation classes on November 29 & 30. Classes will resume on December 6 & 7 and December 13 & 14.**



## YOUTH MINISTRY

### This Week in Youth Ministry

**Freshmen Gathering:** Mon., Nov. 30; 7:15-8:30 pm; YMC

**Winter Antioch Team Meeting:** Tues., Dec. 1; 7-9:30 pm;  
YMC

**Spring Antioch Team Meeting:** Wed., Dec. 2; 7-9:30 pm;  
YMC

### Service Opportunities

**Christmas in a Box** (receiving & organization):  
Sun., Dec. 6; 9 am-12 pm in the Parish Center

**Food Pantry:** Sat., Dec. 19; 8:30-10:15 am

**Gingerbread Workshop:** Sat., Dec. 19; shifts 9 am- 1pm;  
Parish Center

### **Diocesan Christmas Concert**

All are invited to join Bishop Serratelli and the faithful of the diocese for our annual Christmas concert on December 6 at 4 pm at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Parsippany. This year's concert, *The First Noel*, will feature the Diocesan Choir, the Diocesan Children's Choir and the Gramercy Brass Quintet. A variety of music will be presented spanning many centuries and cultures, bringing the joy of Christ's birth into our hearts and lives.

### **Marian Prayer Group**

The St. Patrick Parish Marian Prayer Group offer prayers honoring Mary, the Mother of Jesus and gather in the North Room of the Parish Office building at 41 Oliver Street every Thursday at 10 am. We pray for peace in the world, for the sick and homebound, for deceased members and friends of our Parish and more. Everyone is welcome to join us; come every Thursday or as often as you can. For more information, please call Barbara at 973-635-8869.



## SAINT PATRICK SCHOOL

### *Working Together to Challenge Minds and Foster Faith*

The St. Patrick School students will begin preparing for Christmas. Music fills the hallways as the final preparations for the Lower Elementary Christmas Concert and the band concert are in full swing. Everyone looks forward to singing all the Christmas carols at the Christmas concert but none more than "Holiday Lights." You can hear it echoing throughout the school all December!

St. Patrick School participates in the **Christmas in a Box** program. Each classroom excitedly takes on at least one *Christmas in a Box* family-that's about 15-20 families! The children love doing this and there is a lot of talk about finding the perfect gifts to give. It certainly gets us all in the Christmas spirit!

One of the favorite programs of our students is the **Big Buddy** program and one of the best times to see it in full action is during the Christmas season. This week, the classes will each visit the Santa Shop to get a jump-start on their Christmas shopping. The younger children are helped by their Big Buddies to make sure no one on their list is missed.

The **4th grade class trip to Trenton** was a success. The excitement began with a ride on a "big" bus with TV's! Their visit began in Trenton with a walk through the Veterans' Memorial across the street from the State House. Here the children were able to read about the great sacrifices the men and women made for our country during some of the major wars. They then began the tour of the State House visiting the General Assembly and the Senate. The tour guide also allowed them to visit the governor's outer office. They were surprised with a special visit to the Governor's private office, which was quite impressive and very rare. The children learned so much about our state government on this tour. They continued their day at the State Museum and saw a wonderful show on the *Earth, Sun, and Sky* at the Planetarium. The trip ended with a visit to the Old Barracks Museum. Here the children were made honorary inductees in the military and learned about the many hardships the men suffered during the Revolutionary War. They even got to see a soldier shoot a musket!

### **Upcoming Events**

**Wednesday, December 2**-Santa Shop

**Friday, December 4**-School Liturgy celebration for the Feast of St. Nicholas

**Wednesday, December 9**-HAS meeting at 7:30 pm

**Thursday, December 10**-Christmas Concert K-3 at 7:00 pm

**Sunday, December 13**-6th grade class mass at 9:00 am

If you are interested in learning more about our wonderful school or taking a tour, please contact the office at 973-635-4623.



RCIA is for anyone who wants to learn more about their faith, those who want to become Catholic, those who want to try to understand the teachings of the Catholic Church or those who simply want to deepen their faith if they are already Catholic.

Please contact Deb Kuzma at [dkuzma@st-pats.org](mailto:dkuzma@st-pats.org) for more information.

The Chatham Emergency Squad (CES) will again host a blood drive on Sat., Dec. 5 at the Chatham Emergency Squad, 31 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham. The hours of donation will be from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. We invite the community to stop by and support the blood drive with a donation. There is a constant scarcity of blood. Less than 5% of the population donates. Donors, ages 17-76, should be in good health and have some form of identification with them. Teenagers, age 16 can also donate with parental permission. Forms for this will be available at the site. Anyone with questions about donating can call the blood center at 800-688-0900.