



MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Dr. & Mrs. Robert Brennen

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

9:00 AM Joseph "Jiggs" Di pasquale

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

9:00 AM Maria Vezendy

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00 AM Madeline Weaver

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:00 AM Intentions of Frank Lehnowsky

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 AM Frances Bushman

7:00 PM Chauncy & Catherine Fowler

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:00 AM Dorothy Valunas

4:30 PM Catherine Sosky

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Anthony Tyler Cicerchia
12:30 PM Fr. Julian Karczewski (Hispanic Mass)

SANCTUARY CANDLE THIS WEEK: In memory of Freda Hons.

PEACE CANDLE: In memory of Margarite & George Drasher.

RESURRECTION CANDLE: In memory of Tom & Ida Melchiorre.

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE: In honor of all the volunteers who serve our parish.

THE ALTAR BREADS AND ALTAR WINE that will be consecrated at all our Masses this week are in memory of Douglas Steele given by The Johnson Family.

OUR PRAYERS & SYMPATHY to the families of Mitzi Ursi & Ed Koval. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

WE WELCOME Lenna Elizabeth Ciampi who was baptized here last weekend, God's blessing on this little one.

In keeping with our services for the Year of Faith; Advent Vespers will be held on Sunday December 2 at 6:00 PM.

We encourage everyone to attend to prepare for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

THE SOLEMNITY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated on Friday, December 7th @ 7:00 PM and Saturday, December 8th @ 9:00 AM.

**First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2012**

I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.

Jeremiah 33:15

PARISH SUPPORT

November 18, offering	November 25 offering
Adults: \$4954.50	\$3870.00
Youth: 28.50	18.00
Loose 361.00	370.00
Total \$5344.00	\$4258.00

Matthew 25 \$1220.00
Hurricane Sandy \$1943.00
Christmas Decorations \$1245.00

The second collection next Sunday will be a diocesan offering for Retired Religious.

PARISH DATEBOOK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

BIBLE STUDY/SHARING: 7:00 PM meeting room.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL: 3:45 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

CCW meeting 6:00 PM in the meeting room

ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL: 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

BLUE ARMY HOLY HOUR: 8:00 AM.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be celebrated at 9:00 AM.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

SOLEMNITY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

CCD: Classes in session: 10:40 AM – 11:55 AM.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD

Next Sunday, December 9

Saturday, 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Troiani, Eroh, Dante
Lector: Troiani
Altar Servers: 3
Greeters: Torsella

Sunday, 7:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Kilcullen, Curry, Pierce
Lector: Kalie
Altar Servers: 1
Greeters: R & M Crake

Sunday, 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Wharton, Samsel, Yalch
Lector: Confer
Altar Servers: 2
Greeters: J & T Fink



CCW NEWS

A collection of items for Beyond Violence will be taken up the weekend of December 2nd and December 9th. Boxes will be found in the church lobby and the parish center foyer. Suggested items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper plates, diapers and batteries.

Thanks for supporting CCW.

Saint Cyril Spiritual Center in Danville is presenting an Advent Day of Retreat on December 5th. Please see the bulletin board for further information.

What is the meaning of the Advent Wreath?

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the Advent Wreath is used to symbolize God the Father and eternal life. The wreath holds four candles which are lit over the four weeks of Advent. There are three violet (purple) candles and one rose candle, each representing 1000 years. Added together, the four candles symbolize the 4000 years that humanity waited for the Savior. Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of penance, sacrifice, and prayer. During the first two and the last weeks of Advent we light violet candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for Christmas is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the rose candle on the third Sunday of Advent. When Advent Wreaths are decorated the materials often have symbolic meaning. The use of evergreens reminds us of our eternal life with Christ, holly represents the crown of thorns from the Passion of Christ, and pine cones symbolize Christ's Resurrection.

The first Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the Prophet's Candle reminding us that Jesus is coming. The second Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the Bethlehem candle reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. The third Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the Shepherd's Candle reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. The fourth Sunday symbolizes Peace with the Angel's Candle reminding us of the message of the angels: 'Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.'

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday First Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. Francis Xavier
Tuesday: St. John Damascene
Thursday: St. Nicholas
Friday: St. Ambrose; First Friday
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Saturday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new-fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation.

Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Thursday, December 13.....7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 15.....2:00 – 4:00 PM
Saturday, December 22.....2:00 – 4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24
Children's Mass.....5:00 PM
Festival of Carols and
Blessing of the Crèche.....10:30 PM
Vigil Mass11:00 PM
Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25.....9:30 AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Monday, December 31..... 5:00 PM
Tuesday, January 1..... 9:00 AM