

November 27, 2016

The First Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 26

5:00 p.m. +**Joseph Walsh**
By Bill and Mary Supple

Sunday, November 27

8:00 a.m. +**Antonietta and Sabino Antinolfi**
By Daughter

10:30 a.m. +**Janet DiFonzo**
By Husband

Monday, November 28

8:45 a.m. + **Ludwik Tomiczek**
By Paul and Elisabeth Boccolini

Tuesday, November 29

8:45 a.m. + **George and Anna Redgate**
By Mary Rupell

Wednesday, November 30 *Saint Andrew*

8:45 a.m. + **John and Bridget Durnin**
By Mary Rupell

Thursday, December 1

8:45 a.m. + **Ludwik Tomiczek**
By Ivins and Joanne Smith

First Friday, December 2

8:45 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**

First Saturday, December 3 *Saint Francis Xavier*

8:45 a.m. +**Rose Malet**
By The Saksa Family

5:00 p.m. +**Arthur Peterson**
By Nancy and Charlie Guerriere

Sunday, December 4

8:00 a.m. +**Marina and Giovanni Nappa**
By Granddaughter

10:30 a.m. +**Ginny Moss**
By Gerry and Brian Moss

powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent Season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

*'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'*¹

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary—essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

As Blessed John Henry Newman reminded us in a homily for the Advent Season: "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This 'vigilance' means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living 'wait'. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today's reading to the Romans: 'Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed'" (Rm 13:11).

We must start our journey to ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to be illuminated by His Words of peace and to allow Him to indicate the path to tread. (cf. Is 2:1-5). Moreover, we must change our conduct abandoning the works of darkness and put on the 'armor of light' and so seek only to do God's work and to abandon the deeds of the flesh. (cf. Rm 13:12-14). Jesus, through the story in the parable, outlines



For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to

the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so

the Christian life style that must not be distracted and indifferent but must be vigilant and recognize even the smallest sign of the Lord's coming because we don't know the hour in which He will arrive. (cf. Mt 24:39-44)



Please Support Your Church

**By Attending St. Theodore Church
Tricky Tray Event**

**At the Mansfield Township School
December 3**

Doors open 9:30 am; drawings at 11:00am
Table for 10 Reservation (Until Nov. 25)- \$100
Pre-sale Ticket Bundles- (until Nov. 25) \$25
For more information call 908-313-0081

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dec. 10, 1:30: Leaving for Warren Haven Christmas Mass. Service Hours will be granted.

Our diocese have fifteen 2016-2017 seminarians. The Director of Vocations, Father Jason Pavich has reached out to us asking for our prayers for the seminarians. You will find prayer cards in the Narthex with the seminarians names and a prayer that we have been asked to pray. Please pick up a card and ask our Lord to guide these men on their journey into priesthood.



Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday: December 2
First Saturday: December 3
Mass at 8:45 a.m.
Followed by Exposition and Benediction



If you, or someone you know would like to hear more about Jesus and placing our trust in God, we invite you to join us at an Inquiry Session. Inquiry sessions DO NOT assume a commitment to join the Catholic Faith family.

Inquiry sessions are opportunities to ask questions about God, Jesus, the Catholic Faith Family. All who are unbaptized, baptized into another faith denomination, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation, are invited. Inquiry sessions are for those who wish to inquire, explore, and search for ways to grow in relationship with God.

"The Rite of Christian Initiation is not a program. It is the church's way of ministering sensitively to those who seek membership. For that reason some people will need more time than others to prepare for the lifetime commitment that comes with membership in the Catholic Church. The usual length of preparation is from one to two years. For those already baptized and who seek full communion in the Catholic Church, the time will also vary. It seems reasonable that catechumens or uncatechized candidates experience the yearly calendar of Catholic practice at least one time around in order to make an informed decision.

The process of spiritual renewal and catechesis should not be hasty, especially for those not accustomed to the fasts and feasts and Sundays and seasons the way Catholics observe them. The Christian Initiation of Adults must be integrated into the Easter Vigil, except in exceptional circumstances. The Reception of Baptized Christians into The Full Communion of the Catholic Church may take place at any Mass, whenever the candidate is ready to make a Profession of Faith and/or receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Anyone who is seriously thinking about become a Roman Catholic-Christian or who would simply like more information can call Father Damian: 908-689-8318, ext. 4

Church Schedule

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 3, 9:30 am- Tricky Tray at the school

Dec. 8: Holy Day of Obligation (Immaculate Conception). Mass schedule to follow.

Dec. 10: Warren Haven Christmas Mass

Dec. 11, 11:30: Visit from St. Nicholas

Dec. 17, 4 p.m.: Christmas Confessions

Dec. 17, 6 p.m.: Visiting Choir performing Christmas music.

Dec. 18, 11:30: Brunch with Santa



Stephen, Anthony Vitale, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Michael Dante, Keira H., Maryann Vaughan, Robert Dicheck, Peter,

Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Maryann Vaughan, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Mary D., Kerry Kraft, Patty Mahoney, Cheyann Miller, Cathy Moncello, Louise C.