



## This Week in our Parish

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – First Sunday of Advent  
**Monday, December 3 – Parish Mission 7pm in the Church**  
**Women's bible study 7pm in the St. Thomas More Center**  
**Tuesday, December 4 – Parish Mission 7pm in the Church**  
**Fr. Begg Bible Study 7pm**  
**Wed., December 5 – Parish Mission 7pm in the Church**  
**RCIA 7pm, - Rosary group 8:30am**  
Thursday, December 6  
**Friday, December 7 – Vigil Mass for the Holy**  
**Day of Obligation will be at 7:30pm**  
Server: F. D'Antuono  
Lector: P. Lee and K. Pereira  
EMoHC: F. D'Antuono, J. Blessingame, S. Koons  
**Saturday, December 8 – Feast of the**  
**Immaculate Conception Mass at 8:30am**  
Server: T. Turner  
Lectors: regulars  
EMoHC: T. Turner and L. Hand  
**Sat., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass 5:30pm**  
Server:s F. D'Antuono  
Lector: E. Andretta and L. Harrell  
EMoHC: F. D'Antuono and J. Jean-Pierre  
**Sunday December 9 – Toy Drive this weekend**  
**Second Sunday in Advent**  
**8:30 am Mass**  
Server: J. Drew and L. Slater  
Lector: E. Cronan and C. Gonzalez  
EMoHC: J. Drew, L. Hand, E. Pahls, M. Granger, J. Robinson  
and K. Elsasser  
**10:30 am Mass**  
Server: S. Williams and M. Mirchandani  
Lector: J. Jones and C. Jozwiak  
EMoHC: S. Williams, K. Oberholzer, K. Johnston, J. Marafino,  
A. Abraham, S. Koons  
**Coffee Hour after the 10:30 Mass: Wagner**  
**Noon Mass** Server: S. Lucas  
Lector: D. Hogan and A. Kongs  
EMoHC: S. Lucas and J. Blessingame  

The schedule can always be found on  
our website: [www.st-josephs.org](http://www.st-josephs.org)

## Sacramental Congratulations!

**Baptism** – November 10 – William Andrew Chin  
November 18 – Chloe Grace de Bergevin  
**Wedding** –

## Opportunities for Service

**McKenna's Wagon:** Contact Dn. Gary Bockweg at (202) 544-3767 with inquiries or to sign up for a Sunday afternoon shift.  
**Project Rachel:** Are you or someone you love suffering from a past abortion? Call Project Rachel for confidential help at (202) 269-HOPE [ProjectRachel@adw.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@adw.org)  
**Knights of Columbus:** For information please contact Patrick Abbott, [patrick.abbott@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.abbott@gmail.com) 202-355-3979  
**Vocations - CHECK IT OUT:** For you or a friend! For everyone! Become a promoter! Answer the call! Visit [www.dcpriest.org](http://www.dcpriest.org), call (202) 636-9020, or email [jp2seminary@adw.org](mailto:jp2seminary@adw.org)

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners:

As we have entered into Advent, we begin to think about ways to give gifts. One big gift you can give to Christ is to serve His Church in humble ways. Many of our longtime volunteers are stretched right now and could use some relief as Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Usher, etc. They have requested that an appeal be made for new volunteers. We always make an effort to assign you to the Mass you are already attending. Would you be willing to help? Please call Kelly Hanlon in our office or speak to me directly. We will be happy to give you training and support so that you are comfortable.

This work is not glamorous, but it is Christ-like. We remember at the Last Supper, Our Lord washed the feet of His disciples and then sent them forth to do the same. (John 13:14)

Many thanks for considering this and Happy Advent.

Sincerely in Christ, Fr. Gurnee

## Save the Date!

**December 3-5<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Parish Mission in the church – see information below.

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** – decorate the church for Christmas –see information on the next page

## Parish Announcements

**Christmas Toy Drive Next Weekend** – December 8 & 9 – Please bring an unwrapped toy for children ages 0-8years to any Mass.



**Parish Mission – December 3-5, 7pm** - Deacon Jim Munno will be the speaker. The title of the mission series is "My Peace I Give You" and each night will have its own theme that ties into the overall theme. So it is perfectly fine to come for one, two or all three nights. The evenings will begin at 7 pm in the Church and Deacon Jim will speak for approximately 45 minutes to an hour. We will then break into small group discussions for 20 or so minutes to give you a chance to process how his words effect your life.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Rectory office will be open by appointment only on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Bible Study with Fr. Begg:** the next class is on Tuesday, Dec 4, at 7:00PM in the Parish Center. We are studying St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy. Please bring the handouts.

A weekly evening **Women's Bible Study** group meets Mondays, at 7pm in the St. Thomas More Center. The first

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

book of study is "Full of Grace—Women and the Abundant Life" by Johnette Benkovic. Please contact Chris at [hunkfam@yahoo.com](mailto:hunkfam@yahoo.com) or 334-868-9091 if you are interested or have questions.

**Decorate the Church, Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** – all day– Join us in the church as we 'deck our halls' for Christmas. We need able bodied people to help arrange flowers, drape garland, string lights on trees and generally decorate the church. No need to RSVP – please just show up between 9 & 10. We will offer some beverages and food for the volunteers in the Parish center throughout the day. Questions? email [hanlon@st-josephs.org](mailto:hanlon@st-josephs.org) or call 202-547-1223



**Children's Christmas Pageant – Calling all thespians!** We will have our annual pageant on Christmas Eve right before the 4:30pm Children's Christmas Mass. Anyone interested in a part should contact the rectory at [hanlon@st-josephs.org](mailto:hanlon@st-josephs.org).

We will provide the script and the costumes. The rehearsals will be held on Sunday mornings. All children of the parish are welcome and encouraged to participate!

**News from St. Peter School** - For the past several years, St. Peter School has had the privilege of **participating in a twinning partnership** with the schools of Notre Dame D'Altagrace Parish in Cap Haitien, Haiti: Notre Dame and St. Dominic's. This partnership has allowed us to share our Catholic identity with our sister schools in Haiti, as well as support a community in need of financial assistance. Through the creation of the Haiti Stewardship Committee, a group of parents, faculty and staff at St. Peter School, we have had great success raising awareness in the school community about our sister schools as well as raising critical funds for Haiti. This holiday season, St. Peter School and the Haiti Stewardship Committee will hold a Holiday Market, with all proceeds going to our sister schools in Haiti. **The Holiday Market will run on Tuesday, December 4 and Wednesday, December 5 at St. Peter School.** We hope to see you there to support this great cause. **Mark your calendars – Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to town!** The Pre-K and Kindergarten classes invite St. Peter's School families to join us Saturday, December 8th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Church hall for pictures with Santa, ornament decorating, and cookies & milk. Please RSVP via [bit.ly/SPSSanta](http://bit.ly/SPSSanta).

## Archdiocese Announcements

**Retirement Fund for Religious Collection – Next weekend.** The annual Retirement Fund for Religious Collection will be held on the weekend of December 8-9 in the Archdiocese of Washington. This parish-based appeal, coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), benefits nearly 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests whose communities lack retirement savings. Participation in this collection provides an opportunity to be a witness of Our Lord's love and mercy for the religious men and women who have contributed so much to sharing his

love with others and to building up the Church. Thank you for your generosity.



## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 3

*St. Francis Xavier, Priest*

Is 2:1-5 Mt 8: 5-11

8:00 † The Branch Family

12:10 † Emily Caplis Slocum

### Tuesday, December 4

*Advent Weekday*

*St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

Is 11: 1-10 Lk 10: 21-24

8:00 † Bella and Tom Caplis

12:10 For the Intentions of the Hollis Family

### Wednesday, December 5

*Advent Weekday*

Is 25: 6-10a Mt 15: 29-37

8:00 † Richard Harris

12:10 † Russell Reid

### Thursday, December 6

*Advent Weekday*

*St. Nicholas, Bishop*

Is 26: 1-6 Mt 7: 21, 24-27

8:00 † Lucille and Paul Harris

12:10 † Theodore Slocum

### Friday, December 7

*St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

Is 29: 17-24 Mt 9: 27-31

8:00 † Rosemary H. Gallegos

12:10 † Merle and Marie Stephens

### Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception

7:30pm † Nick Paleologos

### Saturday, December 8

*Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Gn 3: 9-15, 20 Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12 Lk 1: 26-38

8:30 † Robert Prosky

5:30 For the Intentions of Kelsey & Daniel Hanlon

### Sunday, December 9

*Second Sunday of Advent*

Bar 5: 1-9 Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11 Lk 3: 1-6

8:30 † Catherine Mullins

10:30 Pro Populo

12:00 † Anne McKeever