

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 1

8:00am First Saturday Mass
 4:30pm James DeLuca, Sr.
Requested by family

Sunday, December 2

8:00am John Vieira
Requested by family
 10:00am Thomas S. Hogan
Requested by family
 12:00nn Rev. Robert A. Allaire
13th Pastor of St. Francis—8th Anniv.

Monday, December 3

7:00am Mass for the People

Tuesday, December 4

7:00am Gloria Carney
Requested by Jeff & Kathie Carney

Wednesday, December 5

7:00am Joseph Costanza
Requested by family

Thursday, December 6

7:00am Dagmar Pucella Pignataro
Requested by family

Friday, December 7

7:00am Dr. Leonard Staudinger
Requested by family
 6:30pm Vigil for Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Holy Day Masses
 8:00am Mass for the People
 10:00am Marcelle M. Ayer
Requested by Ronald Ayer
 4:30pm Clara Latowski
Requested by family

Sunday, December 9

8:00am Joseph Vieira
Requested by family
 10:00am Rose Tella
Requested by family
 12:00nn Mass for the People



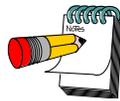
St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 2

10:00am David Bruyere
Requested by family

Sunday, December 9

10:00am Gagnon & Quirk families
Requested by family



For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Gloria Carney.

ADVENT RETREAT

Advent has begun! Preparation for Christmas is underway! *How will you prepare your heart?* Why not consider attending our Advent retreat. ... Never participated in a retreat? Then this one might just be for you. Enjoy a light dinner with fellow parishioners, be gently led in prayer, spend some time reflecting with Jesus. It could make all the difference in your Christmas! Retreat is **this Tuesday, December 4th from 6:30 to 9:30.** Call the rectory (783-4411) to register.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception commemorates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann. In view of the saving merits of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God the Father preserved Mary from the stain of original sin so that she could perfectly carry out in his will in bearing the Messiah. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a ***Holy Day of Obligation.*** Masses will be celebrated on Friday, December 7th at 6:30pm and on Saturday, December 8th at 8:00am and 10:00am. All Holy Day Mass will be celebrated at St. Francis Church.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "We thank God for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's, but also to love God." Show your support for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have made a positive difference in so many lives. Please Share in the Care and give generously to next weekend's second collection.

PARISH SUPPORT— November 18 & 25

Weekly Support	November 18	November 25
Budget envelopes (354 / 375 used)-	\$5,974.00	\$5,918.00
Loose Donations -	\$ 1,397.00	\$1,336.00
Online Giving (20 / 19 donors) -	\$ 435.00	\$ 365.00
Total Budget -	\$7,806.00	\$7,619.00
Camp., for Hum. Dev. 11/18/12		
Envelopes used (293) -	\$2,148.00	
Other donations -	\$ 482.00	
Total CHD -	\$2,630.00	

This weekend's second offering is the Monthly Offering for December. Next weekend's second offering will be the Religious Retirement Fund Offering. As always, thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

DECEMBER 2, 2012

From the Pastor...

Christmas was already in the air last weekend as our parish **Women's Club** hosted another outstanding **Christmas Bazaar** on Saturday morning. It was a great success featuring arts and crafts, holiday decorations, baked treats and terrific raffles. Special thanks to Anne Cooney and to all the ladies who worked to make it such a great event!

Last Sunday we had the grand opening of the **Donald Wilson Parish Library** in Father Greenan Center. I was very pleased with the number of people who stopped in to check it out and enjoy some refreshments (although I do apologize for a glitch that resulted in several people going from the cold church after 8 AM Mass and finding no hot coffee as I had promised). We hope to soon have a comfortable chair in the library for anyone who would like to spend some quiet time reading while waiting for their child in religious education and we also hope that parishioners will take advantage of the opportunity to borrow books for spiritual enrichment. In the near future we will have a listing of the books available at our parish website. I would be remiss if I did not thank those who worked hard to make the library possible – **especially Liz Soltysiak and Beth Anne Goncalves who performed the great task of organizing and cataloging all the books.** Our gratitude for a job well done!

As you may know, a number of our parishioners are very generous in giving their time to bring **Holy Communion to South County Hospital every morning and to a couple of the local nursing homes every week.** We are in need of more volunteers for this important service. If you are presently an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and would be willing to assist in this way, please speak with one of the parish priests or Deacon Iacono. Specifically, Holy Communion is brought to the hospital on weekdays after the 7 AM Mass and on Sunday after the 8 AM Mass. The other immediate need is for someone to go to Brightview Commons on Sunday after 10 AM Mass. Particularly on Sunday, our hope is to have enough volunteers so that you only have to go about once a month. Training is provided. Also, anyone who is not presently an Extraordinary Minister is also welcome to express interest in being prepared and commissioned for this ministry.

This weekend we begin the season of **Advent**, a time of prayerful preparation for our celebration of Christmas. Amidst the hectic activity of the season, **Advent reminds us of the real meaning of Christmas – the birth of our Savior.** I encourage you to take some time during Advent to pray and to appreciate the great gift of the Lord's presence in your life. Please be sure to take a copy of our Advent booklet, *"five minutes with the Word"* and read the daily reflections at home. **Even just a few minutes a day spent in spiritual preparation for Christmas will make our celebration all the richer.**

Msgr. Theroux

Religious Education

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:50-9:50am GRADES 1 & 2 (FGC)
GRADE 7 (FGC)

9:50-10:50am GRADE K (HBH)

10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)
GRADE 8 (HBH)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:00pm First Reconciliation in church

7-8:30pm Confirmation II (FGC)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

4:00-5:00pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

7:00-8:15pm GRADES 7 & 8



This Week

Sunday, December 2

SEE CLASS SCHEDULE ABOVE

1:00pm Advent Wreath Workshop in
HBH—lower church-\$12

5:30-7:00pm PRAISE! Rehearsal

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, December 3

7:30am-12nn Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament (SF)

6:00pm First Reconciliation (church)

7:00pm Confirmation II Class (FGC)

Tuesday, December 4

6:30pm Twilight Retreat (HBH)

6:30pm RCIA Class (MCCR)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, December 5

4:00-5:00pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

5-6:15pm Children's Choir (loft)

6:30pm Fra Angelico Institute (HBH)

7-8:15pm Grades 7 & 8 (FGC)

Thursday, December 6

2pm Mass at Scallop Shell Nursing &
Rehabilitation Center

7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg.

7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (FGC)

Friday, December 7

NO HOLY HOUR due to the
HOLY DAY VIGIL MASS

6:30PM Vigil Mass for Solemnity of
the Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Masses at
8:00am & 10:00am at St. Francis

RETREAT ON THE PRIESTHOOD

Bishop Tobin invites high-school seniors, college, and post-college age men who are discerning a call to the priesthood to a "Retreat on the Priesthood" at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on January 11-12, 2013 from 7:00PM on Friday to 6:00PM on Saturday. There will be discussions, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration & fellowship. Anyone interested in this quiet, prayerful time of discernment should contact Msgr. Theroux or Fr. Carl Fisette, Director of Vocations at 331-1316.

Letters of Thanks ...

Dear Monsignor Theroux, Father Upton and parishioners,

Thank you for your generous response to our "Baby Bottle Boomerang" campaign. A grand total of \$2,236.65 was received from your parish. Since 1979 Right to Life Services has been making a difference in the lives of families with little ones throughout Rhode Island, by helping them with "must have" items such as bassinets, clothing, diapers and emergency formula and baby food. Your donations will enable our ministry to continue our outreach to needy families with newborns and toddlers.

*May God bless and keep you all,
For Life,
Peggy Lavallee, Services Coordinator
Right to Life Services*

Dear Monsignor Theroux:

Thank you very much for the generous World Mission Sunday contributions of \$3,207.50 from the people of St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

As a parish, you too have been "family" to your brothers and sisters throughout the Missions. Your sacrifices will be joined to those from around our country to provide help for such life-giving, hope-filled service in more than 1,150 dioceses throughout the Missions.

... I am most grateful to you for encouraging the missionary spirit of prayer and sacrifice among your parishioners. Know that you and they remain in my prayers and in the prayers of the people of the Missions.

*Sincerely yours in Christ,
(Rev. Msgr.) William I. Varsanyi
Diocesan Director
The Society for The Propagation of the Faith*



Regional Advent

Penance Services are:

Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM
at Christ the King Parish
Monday, December 17 at 1:00 PM
at St. Veronica's Chapel
Monday, December 17 at 7:00 PM
at St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Thursday, December 20 at 7:00 PM
at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish

ADVENT WREATH workshop

Where: Helen Bouchard Hall
(lower church)

When: TODAY, Sunday,
December 2nd

Time: 1:00PM

Cost: \$12 / Advent Wreath Kit

Bring work gloves and clippers.



THE GIVING TREE

If you feel that you can share the gift of giving this Advent / Christmas season, take a decoration from one of the trees and bring back your gift, WITH ITS TAG by Sunday, Dec. 16th. Gifts will be distributed the week of the 16th.

FOOD OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER:

PASTA & TOMATO SAUCE.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



We now offer a secure and convenient way for you to contribute to St. Francis Parish!

Online donations may be made at any time from the privacy and comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Online donations are credited to your tax statement for the end of the year (except when made anonymously), and each user can change his or her preferences or desired donation amounts at any time!

Visit our website for more information on how to get started: www.stfranciswakefield.com.